The Middlebury Campus

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Student Who Posted 'The List' Faces Discipline

By CATHERINE POLLACK AND ELAINE VELIE
News Editors

The student who posted a "List of Men to Avoid" on Facebook last month, Elizabeth Dunn '18, is now facing disciplinary action after the list prompted a judicial investigation into potential violations of college policy.

According to Dunn, administrators said it was "highly likely" that Dunn would face official college discipline, which entails a letter in a student's permanent file and is seen as one step before suspension.

The list included the names of 33 current and former male students who were labeled with sexual misconduct charges ranging from "emotionally manipulative" to "serial rapist." Dunn said the list was compiled from "a group of 30 to 40 survivors," none of whom had given consent to have their names revealed to the school.

Dunn said the charges stem in part from not sharing the names of those survivors with the judicial office. The college's Respect for the Authority of Middlebury Officials policy says that students are expected to "cooperate fully" in the disciplinary process and "any student, whether a party or a witness, who refuses to cooperate" in the disciplinary process may be subject to discipline."

The college's spokesman, Bill Burger, responded on behalf of several administrators who were asked to comment on the college's action since Dunn posted the list on Facebook.

"Students are required to cooperate with conduct investigations once they have been identified, by themselves or others, as having relevant information," he said.

Although Burger would not comment on whether the judicial office requested a list of names from Dunn, when asked why the office would want to know the names of the students who provided names for the list, he said: "Middlebury is committed to supporting survivors of sexual assault and other sexual misconduct and to reducing sexual violence in our community."

The Respect for Persons charge was addressed in an email sent to the community on Dec. 15. The email addressed students placed on

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EMMA STAPLETON/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

The "She Should Walk" fashion show was part of the Middlebury Women's Leadership Symposium on Jan. 20.

Res Life Negotiations Reach SGA

Displeased with College's Plan, Students Ask for More

By ELIZABETH SAWYER
News Editor

After months of tense negotiations between residential life staff and college administrators, a bill calling for increased pay, training and support was introduced to the Student Government Association (SGA) on Sunday.

The bill, entitled "Student Residential Life Revitalization and Just Compensation Act," proposed that residential life staff be compensated at the college's Level B wage scale, or a minimum of $5,410 for their first year on the job. It requests that each commons administration add two live-in supervisory positions to their commons team to be filled by a recent graduate or senior, and that commons administration provide a first aid certification program for residential life staff.

The bill also states that if college does not grant residential life staff Level B compensation for the 2018–2019 school year, the SGA would endorse a student residential life strike if one were to take place.

"There was some language in the bill that was a little disturbing too, which was the idea of this body supporting a strike of residential life staff," said Doug Adams, director of residential life. "I hope that we'd look at this and say that's not where our staff sits. I could be wrong, I don't talk to residential life staff very often."

Adams argued that the bill's requests were more appropriate for discussion among the Residential Life committee, rather than through an SGA bill. However, when the bill's sponsor, Feb senator Alec Fleischer '20.5, was asked if he would rather take the conversation to the Residential Life committee or continue the discussion in the SGA meeting next week, he responded that he wanted it on the SGA agenda for next week.

Negotiations between residential life staff and administrators began in the fall, when student staff struggled to adapt to this year's replacement of commons residential advisors (CRAs) with commons residence directors (CRDs), and felt they lacked sufficient training to deal with alcohol-related emergencies.

"Training as a consensus, ask anybody, bombed. Bombed so hard," Wright said. "Doug Adams was on medical leave. FYCs and RAs were not trained how to handle the most common residential situations they encounter, which is instances of alcohol poisoning and drug misuse. Can you imagine the anxiety that creates for a 19-year-old running into someone who is passed out on the floor, who has a dropping pulse, covered in their own vomit and they have been told to just call Public Safety and do nothing?"

Wonnacott community assistant Kyle Wright '19.5 expressed additional frustration that residential life staff believed that CRDs would function in a way similar to that of the former CRAs, only to find that the position functioned far differently in practice.

"Student residential life staff show up [in August 2017] having signed a contract, a legally binding document outlining their roles and responsibilities, understanding that CRDs will be one thing, "Wright said. "Once the CRDs were hired, the job description changed rapidly. We come to find out that not only are [most] CRDs not living on campus, not only are they not recent graduates, but also that there was only going to be one on call for the entire campus."

Wright said that last year, students could always turn to CRAs for in-dorm support, even when their CRA was not on call.

"There were five [CRAs] present 24 hours a day, six days a week in the dorms," he said. "So you could go to your CRA even if the one on call was preoccupied. There was accessibility to [the CRA] position, there was direct supervisory support on the weekends. That support no longer exists."

Residential life staff argue that this lack of support felt from the transition to CRDs has resulted in a large increase in responsibilities for

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VERMONT LEGALIZES WEED

By AMELIA POLLARD AND ANDRES VELAZQUEZ
Local Editor and Contributing Writer

Following threats of a federal crackdown on marijuana, Republican Gov. Phil Scott signed recreational marijuana use into law on Monday, making Vermont the first state to legalize marijuana through an elected body rather than through a ballot initiative or voter referendum.

On Jan. 4, just hours after U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions announced his intention to limit recreational marijuana use nationwide, the Vermont House swiftly voted 83–61 to legalize possession of marijuana in the state. The Vermont Senate then approved the measure via voice vote. Scott had previously vetoed a senate proposal to legalize marijuana last May, but has since shifted his stance after this most recent proposal.

Vermont is now the eighth state plus Washington D.C. to legalize the recreational use of marijuana.

This bill will allow individuals over the age of 21 to possess up to one ounce of marijuana, grow up to two mature marijuana plants at home, and cultivate four immature marijuana plants. All of these measures will go into effect on July 1.

But unlike all other states in which recreational use of marijuana is legal, Vermont's bill lacks guidelines to set up a commercial market for marijuana, thus still making it illegal to sell marijuana in the state. Instead, Gov. Scott will set up a committee to examine taxing methods, commercial value and general logistics of a potential venture into recreational sale of marijuana.

Despite last year's veto, the governor had already expressed his desire to sign the bill into law prior to Monday. While the bill comes as a result of a Democratic legislature, Senate president pro tempore Tim Ashe took time to thank those who opposed the bill, citing the opposition pressure as "a step in a process to a more rational system."

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Carol's Nears Closing

By AMELIA POLLARD
Local Editor

In a college town like Middlebury, a local coffeehouse is a staple for study sessions, reunions, first dates and interviews. For the past 12 years, Carol's Hungry Mind Café has served as a hub for students and professors alike to share ideas away from campus. Three weeks ago, though, owner John Melanson received an eviction notice after months of missing his rent payments.

Melanson said the recent downtown bridge construction has severely hurt the café's sales and now, even though the building's landlord has been patient and generous – letting him pay, he said, "a thousand here and there" – he is left with no choice but to close.

After a few regular customers learned of Melanson's decision, one of them, Doug Patterson, a local environmental consultant, started an online GoFundMe campaign to keep the café afloat. As of Jan. 23, the campaign had raised more than $2,800 from 46 donors toward the $20,000 goal. Still, Melanson said that while he was grateful for the GoFundMe effort, he doubts he can remain open much longer. (He declined to give a closing date.)

The business's financial troubles began last summer when the downtown rail bridges closed on Main Street and along Merchants Row. The protracted construction has led to the loss of 14 parking spots near the coffee shop, as well as the obstruction of pedestrian walkways around the cafe, which is located at 24 Merchants Row.

"If I looked at my books from the year before last, it has cost about $30,000," Melanson said. "The summers are a very important part. That's when the tourists come, they sit, they spend 30 bucks and they go."

Melanson started the café with the late Carol Ross in 2005. Melanson had been widowed a few years earlier, and in 2004 he met Ross through the online dating site Match.com. After meeting in person, Ross pitched the idea of starting a coffee house together. Just a few months later, the business plan was in place and the two opened Carol's Hungry Mind. In June of that year, Ross was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer and passed away soon after.

Although they met on an online dating site, Melanson and Ross were never romantically involved together. "That doesn't mean that I didn't love her. I did," said Melanson. "I admired her, we shared much of the same musical and literary background."

Today, is now romantically involved with one of Carol's closest friends. They started seeing each other after Carol passed away. "I am not only grateful to Carol for giving me the gift of the coffee house but also for introducing me to Karen and making my life whole again," said Melanson.

Before opening the café, Ross worked at the Vermont Community Foundation and Melanson worked for a furniture design company. For Ross, opening a coffee shop was a long-time dream. She came into Melanson's life, he said, at a point when he was lacking direction and purpose and so he was easily persuaded to give the café a try. "I did leave my work at Vt. Tubbs, the furniture factory, soon after deciding to start Carol's," he said. "It wasn't a hard decision."

"I had no idea I would love it so much," Melanson said in an interview Sunday. "I was a very reclusive type of person. I wouldn't go out and meet new people. And I knew I was going to be on stage at Carol's. Now I love it. I go on vacation and I can't wait to get back."

Although the shuttering of Carol's would be life-altering for Melanson, the Middlebury community—professors, students, and those not connected to the college—would also feel its sting. Just last summer, Middlebury Chocolates, another popular spot for meeting over café au lait or cocoa, closed when its owners converted the shop to a wholesale business and moved to Vergennes.

On a campus that can feel cut off from the town's community, Carol's provides students with a link to the outside world. Melanson sometimes furthered that connection by befriending students. "I was looking at the painting exhibition at Carol's last February, and he started a conversation with me out of the blue about art and books," said Daniel Cho '19.5. "From then on, our relationship has grown to becoming actual friends who catch up regularly. He's so eager

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COLLEGE HOLDS RESTORATIVE PRACTICES TRAINING

By ELAINE VELIE
News Editor

More than forty students, faculty and staff members participated in the first restorative practices training during the first three days of December break. Of the 46 attendees, six were students.

The college intends to launch the pilot restorative practices framework in the fall of 2018.

"Right now we are really working on creating a timeline to share it with the community," said dean of students Baishakhi Taylor. In addition to creating a timeline, the college needs to recruit more community members and train more people. However, another training is not yet scheduled.

"It takes time, and it's not a process that should be rushed, because it's about changing the culture," said dean of faculty Andrea Lloyd. "We're pretty early in."

"In the light of the Charles Murray event, we also realize that there is definitely a need and a desire from our students and other community members that we explore this," said Taylor.

Although related to restorative justice, restorative practices exist alongside regular disciplinary processes, not in place of them. They are also voluntary. "Restorative practices is a tool for building community and restoring harm if there's been a harm done in a community," said Lloyd.

Ami Fürgang '20, one of the students in attendance, expressed discontent with the nature of restorative practices. "I want to completely replace punitive measures with restorative practices, whether pre-active or reactive, and a big takeaway was that this is not replacing the judicial system," said Fürgang. "Of course it's a hard goal to reach, but I believe there is always an alternative to punitive measures."

"I'm less hopeful than I was originally that this will radically change how we deal with conflict on campus, I think it can change things on a much less serious end of things," he added.

Emma Lodge '19.5 spoke to the usefulness of restorative practices. "A lot of the concepts within restorative practices are versatile, and I can see ways I think they apply to my own interpersonal relationships as well as more formal settings," said Lodge. "I think there are also some more direct ways it could be used, but I don't think I feel clear enough about specifics to necessarily say how."

The training was led by two leaders from the International In-

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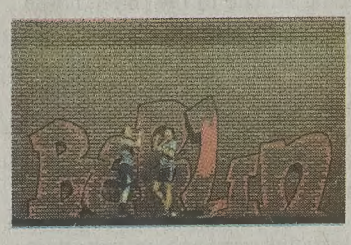

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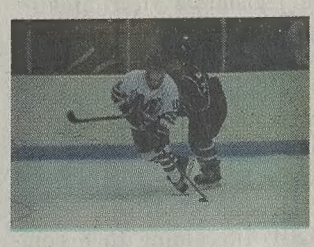

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the list, encouraging them to reach out to judicial deans if they felt they were falsely accused. The email mentioned that the college had received many questions in regard to violations of the Respect for Persons policy.

The policy states that "Middlebury expects all students, as members of the College community, to respect the dignity, freedom, and rights of others." This policy prohibits defamation and "violation of another's privacy."

When asked questions about the nature of the college's investigation, Burger said, "It would be inappropriate to discuss a specific conduct investigation. It is important that all aspects of our investigations are conducted thoroughly, fairly and confidentially."

When asked what jurisdiction the college has over allegations made online, Burger said, "Middlebury's written policies are very clear that our community standards apply broadly and not only to actions that physically occur on our campuses."

While the college has begun to take action in this case, Dunn said, "There isn't a precedent for a situation like this, so there are a lot of directions Middlebury could go in with the judicial process. Maybe that looks like me being suspended or expelled; maybe that looks like community conversations facilitated by the college; maybe that looks like restorative justice."

Speaking to the college's current judicial system, Dunn said, "The question I have is whether the current approach Middlebury uses fulfills the needs of students in the safest, healthiest and most respectful way possible. I think the list itself is an indicator that a large number of people are disillusioned with the processes Middlebury currently has in place to deal with allegations of sexual misconduct."

Burger said: "We know that challenges exist on our campus and at all colleges and universities and we will continue to work with students, faculty, staff and outside organizations to do more and to continually improve our efforts to make Middlebury safer for all members of our community."

Dunn said the list should not be viewed as an isolated incident but in the context of current events.

"We exist in a political and social moment in which survivors are pushing back against a culture of silence, violence, and invalidation. The list could and should be contextualized as part of broader movements against sexual violence, such as the shitty men in media list, the Me Too hashtag, and other forms of activism."

VT. LEGISLATURE FIRST TO LEGALIZE MARIJUANA

(Countinued from A1)

Even though many on the Democratic side of the aisle had hoped for the creation of retail marijuana markets, the version today still stands as significant progress for advocates of marijuana legalization.

Matt Simon, a legislative analyst for the Marijuana Policy Project, called the signing of the bill as a "big step forward in Vermont." However, Simon said that Vermont has a long way to go to maximize the benefits of legalizing the recreational use of marijuana.

While the bill does ensure that those with small amounts of marijuana in their possession won't be charged with a crime, it does little to mitigate the illegal production and sale of marijuana. Simon, along with the Vermont Coalition to Regulate Marijuana (VCRM), is instead working to set up a retail market for recreational marijuana similar to that in California or Colorado. According to the VCRM, doing so would "create jobs, produce tax revenues, and stimulate local economies." Whether this venture into the market occurs remains to be determined by Scott's special committee.

The bill is a reflection of a larger movement towards marijuana legalization across New England. Maine and Massachusetts have already passed legalization measures while New Hampshire is currently undergoing the process. Rhode Island and Connecticut are also looking to begin the legalization process later this year.

In an announcement on Monday, Scott clearly outlined the implications of the bill's passage for Vermonters. Although the consumption and cultivation of marijuana will be authorized come July with his signature, Scott emphasized in a statement to Vermont's General Assembly that it remains a controlled substance, and that selling it in Vermont is still prohibited.

"Today, with mixed emotions, I have signed H.511," said Scott in a statement on Monday. "I personally believe that what adults do behind closed doors and on private property is their choice, so long as it does not negatively impact the health and safety of others, especially children."

The legislation decriminalizes personal use of marijuana for Vermonters over the age of 21, but simultaneously creates stricter policies on other instances of the substance's use. Marijuana remains a Schedule I substance, alongside others such as heroin and LSD. In coming to a compromise over the bill, Scott successfully negotiated for criminal penalties against individuals who sell or make available marijuana to individuals under the age of 21.

Residential Life Negotiations Hit SGA Floor

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First Year Counselors (FYCs), who now feel pressure to act as first responders and provide support and programming.

"It should be noted that that level of support from CRAs was largely unsustainable with their stress levels and obligations. However, now [the CRAs'] stress and responsibility has been laid on the FYCs," Atwater community assistant Peter Dykeman-Bermingham '18.5 said.

As a result of widespread feeling that FYCs have had to bear an increased burden with the transition to a system with CRDs, many staff members believe that a pay increase is now more necessary than ever. FYCs will make $2,400 this year, which breaks down to an hourly wage that is less than Vermont's minimum of $10.50 if divided by the hours Wright says FYCs work per week. RAs currently make $1,800 per year, and CAs $2,000.

"Residential life has always been underpaid here," Atwater FYC Samantha Pearl '18 said. "A breakdown of the hourly pay in comparison to any other campus job is absurd. But the expectations have increased this year. We as student workers are now firstly and directly responsible for afterhours supervision during the week and on the weekends. It's a different job, a bigger job, and many of us have multiple jobs on campus because of the poor pay."

In October, residential life staff drafted a petition urging administrators to consider these challenges. As a result of the petition, administrators and students participated in conversations meant to address the complaints.

"A number of us launched into a dialogue in the fall where we got together with commons teams, administrators, other res life staff. We had a series of really big meetings where we said this is not ok, we feel unsafe, we feel as if the system is broken, and you need to address salary," Wright explained.

After these initial larger meetings, a proposal with a draft of a new pay scale and job descriptions was sent to residential life staff sometime in late November. The draft proposed that FYCs, Resident Assistants (RAs) and CAs all be granted a rebate of $3,000 for 15 hours of work.

Pearl and other residential life staff emailed with feedback, criticizing this uniform pay for all positions in particular.

"I was initially insulted and found the idea of equal stipends trivializing to the FYC position. Doing so to me seemed to continue to devalue the tolls and responsibilities of the FYC position, particularly those aspects that can't be calculated into weekly hours or a job description," Pearl said.

Wright echoed Pearl's sentiments, stressing his belief that commons administrators are out of touch with the realities of the responsibilities of staff.

"The deans and CRDs are so out of touch with the residential needs of this college that they actually thought that paying these positions the same thing, valuing them at the same level was even remotely appropriate, after six months of dialogue to the contrary," he said.

On Jan. 8, Atwater Commons Dean Scott Barnicle sent out a finalized proposal. The final proposal sets RA and FYC pay equal at $3,150 and CA pay at $2,250. This proposal also included more similar job descriptions for RAs and FYCs.

"It is clear the new RA role and the FYC role are far more mirrored than they are currently. And so we felt strongly and I think appropriately, given the feedback we'd gotten, those roles should be paid the most and that we should minimize the CA role," Adams said.

Many residential life staff appreciated the proposal's adjustments in accordance with their feedback, but believe they deserve to be paid Middlebury's Level B compensation.

"I responded to an earlier proposal and some of my suggestions appeared in the final decision, though still shy of what I considered fair pay for the work," Dykeman-Bermingham said. "This plan represents something like a $60K increase to wage spending and I understand the difficulty of so abruptly changing the res life accounting. However, this pay increase should be accompanied by a plan to annually increase the salary of student staff until they are paid a fair wage for the very stressful work they perform."

"I am grateful for the pay increases, but also I agree with Kyle that we should be making minimum wage, especially now that there are expected hours listed," Pearl said.

Fleischer stressed the reasonable nature of these requests, considering the skill required for the job.

"This is a skilled job. There is 2 weeks of training in the beginning of the year, plus its a competitive application process. At a minimum it should be a level B scale, that's $10.82 a year for the first year. We're asking to bring it in line with every other job at Middlebury," Fleischer said.

After discussing the outstanding demands of residential life staff with Wright, Fleischer agreed to work with him to bring a bill outlining their requests to the SGA for deliberation and a vote.

In the SGA meeting, Doug Adams and Cook commons dean Ian Sutherland stressed the importance of awarding residential life staff a rebate, as they do currently, rather than a weekly paycheck based off of an hourly wage for a set number of hours a week, in part because the hours can vary significantly each week. Furthermore, Sutherland claimed that a weekly paycheck would actually result in lower net earnings because a substantial amount would be withheld by taxes.

"The actual money that a student would see in the academic year would be much reduced," Lightman said.

But a calculation from SmartAsset.com suggests otherwise. At a Level B hourly rate of $10.82, a student working 15 hours per week for 28 weeks plus 80 hours of training at the beginning of the semester would make $3,350 according to Vermont income tax rates for a single person paid weekly. This number is higher than the college's proposed $3,150.

Wright stressed that Taylor and Adams participated extensively in conversations with students, and that if he had to pinpoint where communication fell through, it would be between CRDs, commons deans and their student staff.

"Baishakhi was very proactive, but because her job is to delegate the actual work, she delegated that work to commons deans and CRDs primarily," he said. "To my knowledge, CRDs and deans solicited feedback over email, but did not go to many lengths to create space for their staff to provide focused, critical feedback."

When asked whether he thought commons deans and CRDs had had sufficient communication with their student staff before drafting the proposals, Adams said yes.

"They reached out through their teams, through regular one on ones, to say 'here's what we're doing, do you have any feedback?'" Adams said.

"Email and paper aren't as good so we've done an information session so far, we're planning another information session closer to the [housing application] deadline next week, saying we'd really like to answer any questions people have," Adams said, referring to the housing information session held on Jan. 16. In later email correspondence, Adams clarified that this meeting was "targeted at new applicants for next year."

In an email from the Undergraduate Housing office, the event was described as an opportunity to "ask questions related to the Fall Term Pre-Open Draw processes," where questions could be answered relating to Res Life Positions, Language & Special Interest Houses, Superblocks, Off Campus Housing, and Social Houses."

Current residential life staff were either unaware of the meeting or did not think it was an opportunity to ask questions about the ongoing negotiations. When asked if Pearl attended the housing information session on Jan. 16, she replied,

"I don't think so? I didn't go and didn't think it had anything to do with that," Pearl said.

When asked if he had met with anyone in person about the proposal sent over winter break, about the second proposal, Dykeman-Bermingham said he had only sent an email with criticism against the equal pay for all positions.

"I am assuming that Kyle Wright had one-on-one meetings. I never met one-on-one with a dean or CRD either," he said.

When Wright was asked whether he had had any one-on-one communication with a commons dean or CRD, he replied that he had no correspondence with either commons deans or CRDs throughout the process.

The Campus reached out to all of the commons deans and CRDs for comment. Some did not respond, while others replied that Doug Adams could answer all questions.

In response to calls for increased pay, Adams stressed the significance of the accomplishment of attaining a pay increase for the 2018–2019 school year.

"The college is going through a restructuring time where we are actually reducing budgets, but in this case we were able to negotiate going into next year an increase in the rebates that we'll offer to student staff," Adams said.

Adams also plans to continue to seek pay increases.

"The rebate should be larger. I'd love to see that. I think finding the balance is really important. I'm going to continue to advocate for a higher rate going forward," he said.

In response to calls for an additional position to provide in-dorm support to residential life staff, Adams said it was a possibility, but that it will require continued conversation that would include communication with students.

"The SRA can potentially exist if it solves the problem. We're going to continue to explore that with our student staff," he said.

Adams has already begun efforts to provide increased first aid and alcohol training to students.

"I've already reached out to Jen Kazmierczak, she's our environmental health and safety educator who helps coordinate first aid trainings about setting something up so that students and res life staff who are interested in getting CPR or first aid certified can take care of that. Alcohol training is through health and wellness, so Barbara McCall, the health and wellness educator has agreed to do that program, so she's going to come in and do a program with them next week," Adams said.

Editor's note: Managing editor Will DiGravio, who is currently an FYC and participated in residential life negotiations, was not involved in the writing or editing of this report.

Restorative Practices Pilot Launches

(Countinued from A1)

stitute for Restorative Practices, which issues various levels of certification in restorative practices, including a graduate degree. The attendees of the December training are now certified to lead restorative circles, the "central tool in restorative practices," according to Lloyd.

The attendees of the training came from a variety of positions across campus. "There were some people who were tapped to participate because their work will likely intersect with restorative practices, but we also wanted to get people who were generally just interested in restorative practices so we could build some capacity around being able to facilitate these circles," said Lloyd.

Restorative practices on campus will likely begin in residential life, and all commons deans and four Commons Residential Directors (CRDs) attended the training. "The genesis was in residential life, that it would be a primary tool for community building in student life, and so I think we're looking first in terms of rollout," said Lloyd.

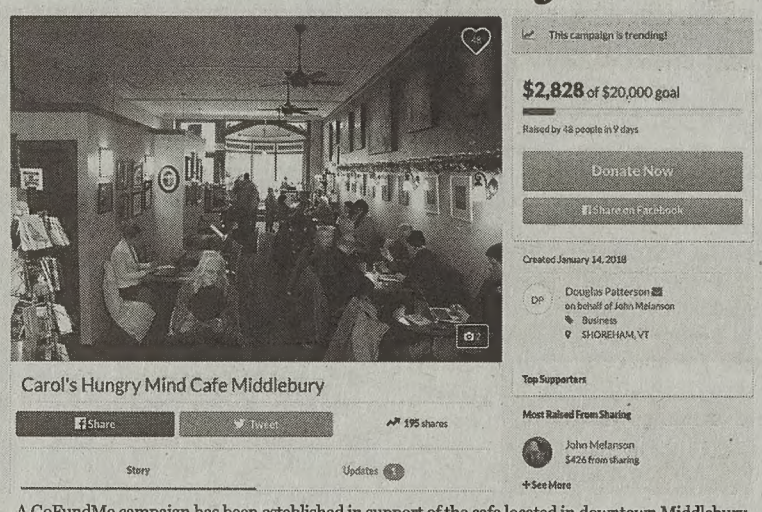
However, Lloyd expressed optimism about the potential for restorative practices at the college beyond residential life. "We had people in the room that were off in different parts of the college, were members of different constituencies, who don't normally sit down together in that kind of direct, vulnerable way. To have three days of it, I felt like it was transformative to just be part of the training, I can only imagine what would happen if we rolled this out on the campus as a whole."

MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE

Baishakhi Taylor.

Both Taylor and Lloyd stressed the importance of time in creating a restorative practices framework. "We also just need to be a little bit patient with each other, but it has tremendous potential and I'm really excited about doing the work and getting it done."

Community Raises Money For Beloved Cafe



A GoFundMe campaign has been established in support of the cafe located in downtown Middlebury.

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to get to know students from Middlebury."

Authors like Jay Parini, a professor of English and creative writing, have written entire books within the café's confines. The café's high ceilings, ocher walls and chalkboard menu seem to encourage linger over an espresso. "For many years I considered Carol's my study," Parini said. "I sat at a small table at the back and wrote poems and novels. I loved working there. It would be shame to see this café gone from Middlebury."

Melanson insisted that the college was critical to the café's success and, as a result, he has no plans to move the business elsewhere. "As I always say, without the college, I wouldn't be here," he said. "I wouldn't open up a place like this in Brandon, let's say, because the college is essential to it and everything that surrounds the college—the students, the professors."

Robert Cohen, a professor of English and American literatures, can often be found at Carol's, planted at a table by the window. He lamented the café's looming closure in an e-mail, penning an ode to the coffee house that also captured the solipsistic life of the academic. "It's a good place to write or read or just stare into space, pretending I'm not eavesdropping on my colleagues' conversations," Cohen wrote. "Maybe for those of us who spend a lot of time in our own heads, the buzz of human discourse in the background serves as an important lifeline."

As businesses come and go in Middlebury, the college has realized its own stake in a vibrant downtown, where restaurants and shops are a draw for prospective students. Employees of the college serve on committees and boards like those of the Better Middlebury Partnership (BMP), the Addison County Chamber of Commerce and the Addison County Economic Development Corporation (ACEDC).

Last year, the BMP and the ACEDC secured funding to help merchants whose businesses were disrupted by the construction. Although the grant has since expired, the organizations are now looking for more funding to assist businesses. "We have been an active partner in those conversations," said David Donahue '91, an assistant to college president and the college's director of community relations. "Those organizations are also thinking about new and creative ways to bring energy, and customers, into the downtown."

Still, some residents argue that local officials are not doing enough. In a recent column in the Addison Independent, Gregory Dennis expressed concern that the $52 million bridge project could have lasting consequences. "Without measures to protect existing businesses and fill empty storefronts," he wrote, "in a worst-case scenario we could end up with fancy new bridges over trains running through Nowhere: a place that used to be called downtown Middlebury."

Cohen, the English professor, also imagined the town without a meeting place like Carol's. "Ideally the presence or absence of one little coffee shop wouldn't be a world historic event," he said. "But imagine this town without it. It's hard to feel good about civic life without some civic spaces that draw people together."

VT Guard Proposes Waived College Tuition

By KENSHIN CHO
Contributing Writer

MONTPELIER — State legislators are discussing a proposal that would provide free tuition to members of the Vermont National Guard. Supporters of the bill are hoping that the measure will increase enlistment and attract more working-age people to the state.

Vermont is one of few states in the country without full tuition benefits for their guard members. Currently, guard members can apply for interest-free loans and scholarships provided by the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation (VSAC). About 2 percent of guard members take advantage of this program, tapping into state funds of about $250,000. But many say that the fund is not enough, and are concerned that the limited assistance is pushing recruits to enroll in the National Guard of neighboring states over that of Vermont.

"You're willing to serve, you want to serve, but if you're looking at New Hampshire or Massachusetts or any of the surrounding states, you're like, 'I can stay in Vermont and maybe get some money, or I can just drive an hour south and be fully covered," explained VT's education services officer, Capt. Brian Williams, in an interview with the Burlington Free Press.

NATIONAL GUARD FLICKR PAGE
Vt. Guards stand at attention at Camp Johnson in Colchester, Vt.

With a declining population, Vermont is already experiencing recruitment difficulties in its National Guard. In a testimony to the Vermont House of Representatives, Maj. Gen. Steven Cray, adjutant general described the challenges.

"In the last year alone, the Vermont Army National Guard under recruited by 50 soldiers and the Air National Guard under recruited by 60 airmen leaving 350+ vacancies across the ranks of the Vermont National Guard," Cray said in the statement. The solution, he said, was to provide education as an incentive, a strategy used successfully by all other states in New England.

The newly proposed bill is designed to expand the current system, adding $640,000 to the budget, for a total of $890,000 in state funding to VSAC. Based on historical data from other states, officials with the national guard estimate that about 195 to 235 members would utilize the tuition benefits. In order to reap the benefits of this bill, officers would need to be accepted into University of Vermont's (UVM) State Agricultural College, or another Vermont State College, and commit to serving two years. If members opt for a private institution, they only receive a reimbursement equivalent to UVM's tuition.

The bill is popular. In Vermont, a state with one of the lowest birthrates and highest outbound migration rates, measures to attract and keep the working population are viewed as important investments. Republican Governor Phil Scott underscored the issue in his annual State of the State address. "These are the men and women who bravely serve our country and communities," he said. "They have valuable skills that benefit our employers and economy. They can help us grow our workforce, and put kids back in our schools."

Democratic legislators including Representative Helen Head of South Burlington, chair of the House Committee on General, Housing, and Military Affairs, have also advocated for its passage. "Given the committee's receptivity to it this year, I suspect an even stronger bill will get our support," she told the Burlington Free Press. Independent US Sen. Bernie Sanders has also thrown his support behind the measure.

Nevertheless, the bill's passage is far from certain. Despite the enthusiasm from both sides of the aisle last year, the proposed bill failed due in large part to a lack of clarity on where the money would come from. Vermont continues to experience a tight budget and with Governor Scott's aversion to new taxes, raising revenue to fund this measure is difficult. Until the new budget is ratified in the coming weeks, the status of the bill will remain unresolved.

EMMA STAPLETON
Students sport Skida headwear and neckwarmers around campus and on the slopes.

Midd Alumna Discusses Success of Nordic Skiwear Company

By BECCA BERLIND
Contributing Writer

BURLINGTON-- For high school nordic skiers across Vermont, race day brings giddy excitement as skis are waxed and hot gatorade is prepared. The warm up tracks and gear tents fill with racers, each sporting a different skin-tight racing suit—emblazoned with the name of their school. One colorful accessory unifies the aggregation of nordies: the Skida headband. Founded by Middlebury alumna Corinne Prevot in 2008, when she herself was among these young racers as a high school senior at Burke Mountain Academy, Skida apparel has charged to the forefront of the athletic-wear market, and is a nordic-garb staple.

Skida products carry the adventurous and playful spirit of nordic skiing. Skida offers a variety of winter headwear and accessories, their most popular being the headband, made with cozy lightweight fleece and poly-lycra blend fabric in a rotating set of colorful patterns and designed particularly for cross-country skiing. However, Prevot stated that Skida products are geared toward all lovers of outdoor adventure.

"While our hats were originally created with Nordic skiing in mind, Skida can be appreciated by anyone who enjoys outdoor activities, color, cold weather accessories, and/or soft things," she said in an interview with The Campus.

Skida also offers a popular "Vermont Collection" that boasts unique, limited edition patterns. Its designs are constantly changing and fresh energy regularly circles the brand. Prevot emphasized the profound effect the outdoors have on Skida products.

"We celebrate an active outdoor lifestyle as the basis for Nordic skiing as a sport," she said. "So much of our time as Nordic skiers is spent playing in the mountains, so there's a lot to appreciate and be enthusiastic about! We do our best to reflect that energy and joy through both the function and design of our headwear."

Prevot founded Skida during her second season of ski racing on what she describes to Misadventures Magazine as "an impulse." Prevot explained that when she started Skida she was consumed by the sport and spent many hours considering designs—selecting colors, fabrics, fits, and styles—for the perfect Nordic ski hat. Skida captures what Prevot hopes aspiring skiers see in the nordic community: a vibrant and lively community of bold risk-takers.

Though maybe nothing more than an ingenious impulse, Skida has brought imagination and originality to Nordic ski apparel and landed Prevot a spot on Forbes' 30 Under 30 list. The list seeks to recognize the creativity of young trailblazers within their respective professions, which Prevot embodies both on and off the slopes. During her time at Middlebury College, Prevot expanded her brand and cited the range of support she received here as crucial to Skida's development.

"While our hats were originally created with Nordic skiing in mind, Skida can be appreciated by anyone who enjoys outdoor activities."

CORRINE PREVOST
FOUNDR OF SKIDA

"While I was a member of the Nordic ski team at Middlebury, I was lucky to have such great teammates and a fun community of people to get to know. I did not know how much they'd support me and what Skida would grow into today, but I'm eternally grateful," she said.

Middlebury also proved a valuable resource in bolstering Prevot's business development skills. Between the wide and supportive alumni network and the diverse opportunities for growth available on campus, Prevot said that Middlebury granted her a set of tools to create and explore the many aspects of running a small business. As Prevot described to the website Womenled, she participated in the Midd Entrepreneurs program her freshman year which helped her think critically about Skida's future and become a more practical business planner.

Prevot initially began Skida with the support of her mom, Maggie, and as the brand grew she began to enlist the help of other local women who take on roles as seamstresses, customer service representatives, and designers. Prevot described her now team of twelve to Misadventures Magazine as a group of "fabulously smart, passionate, young women". Skida also continues to follow through on their mission to produce and source locally. Not only does local production ensure quality control and increase communication within the business, but it also creates work locally in the skilled labor sector—an area where Vermont is lacking in employment opportunities.

Beyond creating products for outdoor adventure, Prevot has also started the Skida Plus One (Skida+1) program. The initiative donates a hat to a cancer patient undergoing chemotherapy every time an order is placed with the +1 promotional code. Through this program, Prevot seeks to extend the warmth of the Nordic community and use her success with Skida to give back.

"For someone undergoing chemotherapy, Skida hats provide a perfect level of warmth and comfort. As an added bonus, the colorful patterns bring cheer," the company states on its website.

Looking forward, Prevot hopes to further Skida's development with joy, creativity and color. Through Prevot's commitment to innovation, support of local production and dedication to service, Skida's future is bright.

VT Executive Branch Self-Mandates Sexual Violence Training

By KENZO OKAZAKI
Contributing Writer

MONTPELIER-- After the revelations of sexual misconduct by such public figures as Al Franken, Harvey Weinstein, and Matt Lauer, the #metoo movement continues to carry momentum, prompting action to prevent sexual harassment. On Dec. 22, Vt. Gov. Phil Scott, updated his office's ethics policy to require executive branch employees to complete sexual harassment prevention training by the end of 2018.

Previously, training was optional and only accessible online. The new mandate requires in-class training. The Vermont Digger published that since 2014, Vermont has investigated 52 cases of sexual harassment reported by state employees.

"What we've seen and heard about the prevalence of harassment and assault from many across the country is disappointing, and it is clear we must all take a strong stand against this abuse," Scott said in a statement last month.

Beth Fastiggi, the Vermont Department of Human Resources Commissioner, is optimistic that this change in policy will have its desired effect. "The updated Executive Code of Ethics and the mandate to provide sexual harassment training will go a long way towards creating a workplace culture of respect, dignity and professionalism," she said.

Although Commissioner Fastiggi recognizes that training on the issue may lead to an uptick in complaints, she commented that this was acceptable "if it signals that employees are better educated on the subject matter and that leadership will not tolerate inappropriate behavior at work."

The Governor's directive parallels a surge of local responses to sexual assault by elected officials across the country. A similar order was made by Washington D.C. Mayor Muriel Bowser who, only a few days prior to Scott, mandated that 30,000 city employees undergo online sexual harassment prevention training. Although this order covers more government employees than Scott's initiative, Vermont's in-class approach may prove to be more influential than online sessions.

Deborah Katz is quoted in a recent Washington Post article on the matter citing research that online prevention training is ineffective because it may make "harassers more inclined to harass" in the sense that it provides a "how-to" guide on harassment. Fastiggi says that Vermont has taken the in-classroom route as opposed to approaches like Bowser's "because the in-classroom experience lends itself to rich discussion and the ability for participants to ask questions of presenters."

The Governor's order is not the only action that Vermont's government is taking to implement sexual harassment training. Vermont Business Magazine reported that on Jan. 9, Vermont's House of Representatives received sexual harassment training. The Speaker of the House also made clear their intent to make Vermont's sexual harassment policies the "gold standard" by ensuring their continual improvement.

The Vermont Senate also received a briefing on its sexual harassment policy. Although noted by many officials as an important discussion, Seven Days reported that the issue of sexual harassment has ignited some tension in the Senate. Senator Dick Sears told Seven Days that the confidentiality with which cases are treated is an apt measure to protect victims, but it is unfair to the senators because any one of them could appear culpable.

The Governor's directive parallels a surge of local responses to sexual assault by elected officials across the country.

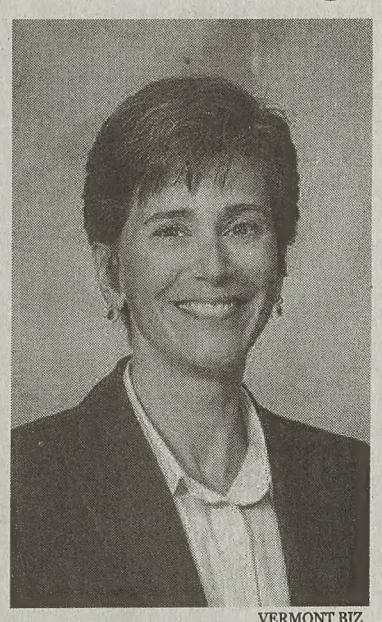
Despite the problems that Vermont and other states will face going forward in combating sexual harassment within government, officials have recognized the success of the #metoo movement in igniting this policy change.

Vermont Senator Mollie Burke (D), the chair of the sexual harassment panel in Vt.'s House of Representatives, told WCAX3 that the #metoo movement has been important in empowering victims of sexual harassment, and that policy should facilitate their ability to come forward. She added that she is hopeful that the House of Representatives will be able to take such action.

Commissioner Fastiggi also recognized the impact of the #metoo movement. "The movement and surrounding discussions caused us to review our policies and refresh our training so that it was most effective," she said.

With such high-profile allegations as those leveled against the aforementioned U.S. Senator Al Franken, and the 52 cases of harassment reported by Vermont state employees, it is timely for state governments to take measures aimed at addressing this issue. When briefing the House of Representatives, legislative council Katie McLinn emphasized that sexual harassment "is a form of sex discrimination." Taking steps to prevent sexual harassment may help to restore faith that those at the highest levels of government do not participate in discrimination and as such it will not be reflected in their legislation or governance.

Fastiggi concluded that there will be more done in the future and that a "culture of respect starts at the top." She indicated that because uncivil behavior can lead to harassment, the state training center will make Civility in the Workplace training, which "focuses on workplace etiquette, diversity awareness and cultural sensitivity," available to all state employees within the next year.



VERMONT BIZ
Commissioner Beth Fastiggi

Fastiggi is confident that "the combination of sexual harassment awareness and prevention training and workplace civility training will have a significant and positive impact on workplace culture in Vermont state government." However, It is unclear what future action state governments plan to take in addressing sexual harassment not related to government employees. The governor's office did not respond for comment.

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How We Move Forward After 'The List'

By THE EDITORIAL BOARD

As our campus entered finals period a month ago, a list, inspired by the #MeToo movement, was published on Facebook. This list cited many male students, approximately 35 of them, as being complicit in gender-based violence, describing each of their behavior in parentheses next to each name. The list looked like this: "John Doe (rapist), John Doe II (sexual harassment, emotional abuse), etc."

The Facebook list has spurred further dialogue about sexual assault, patriarchy and sexism on campus. #MeToo, among many efforts in Hollywood and other spaces to empower women to come forth and speak out against abuse they have experienced, puts the list into context. The time is apt, and long overdue, for society, and our community specifically, to critically assess the ways we tacitly condone sexual assault and violence against women. For too long, women have suffered abuse from men and few systemic steps have been taken to name or address it.

This paper's fall editorial, "It Happens Everywhere," touched upon how our community needs to do more to prevent harassment and abuse done onto women. Clearly, sexual assault happens on our campus. Regardless of how we feel individually about the actions of the person who published the list, that choice highlights the broken nature of situation on campus.

Someone in our community was compelled to compile a list of men, corroborated by survivors, who are allegedly guilty of sexual violence on multiple occasions, not to mention all the unnamed men. It's also important to note that not all of the aforementioned survivors consented to having their stories shared, a fact that demonstrates yet another troubling aspect of the situation.

One common critique of the list is that the publisher did not authenticate claims because survivors who spoke out against the listed men were not named, nor was an accompanying narrative about the incident. It is unfair to ask survivors to make themselves so publically vulnerable and risk their health and safety. They do not need to reveal themselves. They did not ask for the abuse they experienced; they are not required to publicize their pain.

No doubt it was jarring for all of us, in differing and infinitely complex ways, to see the names of those we know on that list. As members of this community, our indignation is colored by the anecdotes of our friends and peers who say the college's legal system has failed them.

While we understand that the legal framework (particularly Title IX) is central to the operation and responsibilities of the administration, we are frustrated by the way in which it prioritizes careful legal-speak over empathy. Issues of sexual violence are treated like legal complexities, as ambiguous gray areas, and often eclipse the actual experiences of survivors.

Though the school has advocated its judicial processes and reporting procedures, these are not for everyone. There are other roads to healing for victims of sexual violence, including Parton's Counseling Center and MiddSafe. To speak of one process as the predominant form of support fails to accommodate the nuance of these situations.

The way society reproduces notions of patriarchy and bestows young boys with sexist, problematic understandings of sex and intimacy needs to be part of the framework. These same notions of patriarchy persist at the college, so the college could help students unlearn these insidious lessons through more thorough sex and consent education for first-years. Once such work is incorporated and built upon, then perhaps Middlebury can better support those who have experience sexual violence, and prevent it in the first place.

But the college's orientation program cannot be the only place where this issue is addressed. We students have a responsibility to end rape culture on this campus. We need to set new standards for how we uphold ourselves in our interactions. We already have such a framework for understanding microaggressions and cultural appropriation. Many of us come to Middlebury without a sufficient understanding of these issues, but we quickly learn what actions or statements are offensive. Calling out these instances is a part of our campus culture. Indeed, we students have the collective power to establish norms and to hold each other accountable when they are broken.

Much of the dialogue surrounding the list has been raw, in part because it affected, directly or indirectly, so many people on this campus. As we decide where to go from here, our campus should move forward with nuance, intentionality and anti-patriarchal values. Let's believe and listen to women, acknowledge when and how we're complicit, and work hard to bring justice to this issue.

WE SUPPORT RESIDENTIAL LIFE

By THE EDITORIAL BOARD

Even though not all students spend time as part of the Residential Life staff, they all have contact with them over our four years. Whether it is putting in work orders or feeling homesick as a first-year, the Residential Life team spends hours of their time upholding the Middlebury's values as a residential college. They are being asked to do more, but their pay and training does not reflect that.

Last year, it was announced that the position of the Commons Residential Advisor (CRA) would be replaced with the creation of the Commons Residential Director (CRD). While the name change is insignificant, the changes to what the roles entail are not. The main differences are the CRDs do not live in the First-Year dorms, they need to have a masters degree or higher, and take on a less personal role overall due to the less direct interaction they have with students. The CRDs now also did not attend Middlebury. The CRAs were described as the connective tissue, bridging the gaps between students, deans, and all of the Residential Life staff. CRDs function closer to administrators and disciplinarians. Now that this integral part of Residential Life is gone, student staff, mainly First Year Counselors (FYC) are left to fill in the gaps.

Some of the responsibilities of FYCs have grown to include increased hours on duty, more formalized rounds, fire safety checks, regular programming for their halls and dealing with any crisis their first-years are facing. While these all seem like they should be under the job description of FYCs, CRAs used to be in charge of or assisted with many of these tasks. Further, CRDs are officially supposed to handle programming, but there is no time or accountability to make this happen. Another issue that arises from CRDs not living in First-Year dorms is the FYCs are often the first responders to incidents of assault, alcohol and sexual misconduct. There is a deficit in training that makes FYCs unqualified to handle these situations. If the lack of training is not enough, Residential Life staff are also underpaid. This year, FYCs made $2,400 with an extra $200 that came after asking. This is around 58% of what they should be paid – about $4,500 – under Vermont's minimum wage law. However, since they are classified as student leaders, there is a loophole that allows the college to pay them less. After a series of meetings this past semester, the stipend was raised to $3,150. A position on Residential Life is advertised as an employment opportunity, and for students who need to work, this is a disincentive. Even if students do not need to work on campus, they are being told to do more, but their pay and training are not reflecting the increase in tasks.

The SGA, with the help of many concerned Residential Life staff members, has proposed a bill that will attempt to address the gaps. First, the pay for the job should reflect the minimum wage law in Vermont. The college cannot ask students to do more, like have a required amount of hours, without raising how much they are paid. Also, training for Residential Life should include CPR and First Aid. FYCs are often first responders since the CRDs do not reside in the First-Year resident halls. They should not be dealing with violence, injuries and alcohol without training. Finally, a position should be created for a Senior Residential Advisor (SRA) that mirrors what used to be the role of the CRA. This position could be a recently graduated student who contracts with the college to fill in the support gaps. The SRA could also be a senior student who does this job in exchange for a lighter course load or as credit for a class. While the specifics of the role has not been communicated, living in First-Year dorms could be included.

Over winter break, there was an email sent out with an updated pay scale, but it did not address the issues in training or support. The SGA and Residential Life staff members hope this bill can attempt to address the remaining issues. The purpose of a Residential Life team is to foster and support a robust residential learning community, an important counterpart to academics, but they cannot do that without the skills or pay. We as The Campus Editorial Board propose that this bill passes. If this bill is not approved, people will be less inclined to apply and Residential Life will be in crisis.

Editor's note: Our board includes members of Residential Life staff, past and present. We invited Kyle Wright to our editorial meeting to help us understand his legislation, and our News team met with administrators to discuss the issue. Our managing editor, Will DiGravio, played no part in the discussing, writing or editing of this editorial due to his past involvement in Residential Life negotiations.

UNRECOGNIZED LABOR

By VIGNESH RAMACHAMDRAN

So many of the people of color (POC) that I've talked to on this campus are exhausted. When I first started to tell my white friends that I can't wait to get off this campus, they responded "Really?" Yes, really. And I think most students of color feel the same. A short documentary called, "Abroad at Home: Accounts of the Invisible," looks into the lives of students of color at Middlebury as they tackle whiteness at the College. It examines professors and non-POC students constantly mistaking students of color for other POCs, the microaggressions, and the general discomfort of being black or brown on this campus. The very essence of this institution, from the financial aid office, to public safety and judicial affairs beats down POC students.

Universities as a whole, are essential in reproducing and institutionalizing the dominant social paradigms that we see elsewhere in the country. This means that Middlebury College reproduces the same systemic white supremacy that we see in the form of police brutality, housing discrimination, predatory lending, the school-to-prison pipeline, and more every day aspects of our lives.

But in the past two decades, there has been a push to include students of color in universities. Diversity has been lauded as an institutional goal for universities around the country, seemingly as a response to cultural activism in the 1980s and 1990s pushing for universities to diversify the curriculums and student bodies. This push for "multiculturalism" was a message that resonated with wealthy donors, leading universities to admit more students of color (students of color are included because they are valuable to the university). The primary purpose of admitting higher numbers of students of color is to better the university. Educating POC students is just a side-effect of bringing them to campus.

Now, Middlebury College publishes statistics on how diverse the student body is, with numbers of students of color steadily increasing, to satisfy donors and publicists alike. And even though Middlebury's Diversity and Inclusivity statement says, "We are deeply committed to creating a diverse, welcoming community with full and equal participation for all individuals and groups," not everyone shares that labor equally.

The College has made some steps in the past few years. When I was a first-year, there was no Anderson Freeman Resource Center (AFC), any full-time qualified staff to support students of color and first generation students, and AAL (Asia-Africa-Latin America) was still a [orientalist/racist] distribution requirement (primarily based on the assumption that it doesn't matter which black and brown people you study, because they're all the same). These weren't moments of heightened cultural and social awareness for Middlebury College. Students of color and their allies have been fighting for these improvements for years, and they won.

But it's still obvious that this campus wasn't made for students of color. There is still no Africana/African-American Studies major. The racial diversity of faculty remains low. Ironically, in its attempts at diversifying the College, it has never looked whiter.

In her book, "On Being Included," Sara Ahmed discusses the plight of universities in trying to institutionalize diversity, without actually making any institutional changes, but instead leaves diversity work to what she calls "diversity workers." That could mean people in the administration like a Chief Diversity Officer, the position itself only making it more obvious that

(Continued on Page A5)

Letter to the Editor

By LAURIE PATTON

Re: "A New Presidential Tradition Is Needed," Jan. 18, print.

I was delighted to read The Campus' editorial calling for a new presidential tradition of an annual address to students. It is exactly the spirit of constructive, solutions-oriented engagement that will help us move forward. I also greatly appreciate the acknowledgment of the bind that frequently happens on campuses such as ours: if administrators reach out, they're co-opting, and if they don't, they're unresponsive.

Opportunities for conversation are part of expanding and growing the public sphere, and we should make more of them. The president speaks at the faculty gathering at Bread Loaf at the beginning of the school year, and I have added a mid-year conversation with faculty that we conducted just this past Friday. In February, I'm also beginning a new tradition of holding an annual conversation with all staff. On our campus there are many small scale opportunities for students to engage: in any given week I am meeting with SGA representatives and other student groups, holding open office hours, hosting lunches for students in the dining hall or at 3 South, running workshops, or teaching classes. But The Campus is right that, apart from Convocation, Baccalaureate, and Commencement, there is no large-scale occasion to converse with students.

In the next few weeks I will reach to students who would like to engage in a discussion about how this might work. If you would like to join that conversation, please email my office at president@middlebury.edu. I have some ideas about format and approach, but I'd like to hear yours first.

I thank The Campus again for a constructive and forward looking suggestion.

Laurie Patton is the president of Middlebury College.

Since Education Matters, I'm Guessing Middlebury Will Divest

By BILL McKIBBEN

Middlebury trustees are both intelligent and compassionate, the qualities they share with the students they admit to the college. But since the premise of college is that you emerge still wiser after the passage of four years — that new information changes us — it's probably time to look at the lessons learned over the last half decade since Middlebury's board first took up the question of fossil fuel divestment. Let's examine the evidence that has emerged in the course of those years, a learning process that has accelerated in recent weeks as big cities like New York have pledged to sell off billions in oil and gas stocks.

Climate change has gotten far far worse. The last five years have seen global warming move from mostly theoretical to entirely disastrous. We've watched vast swaths of the planet's coral reefs die in the course of weeks; we've seen new diseases ride the expanded range of mosquitoes across entire continents; our satellites have shown the north and south poles melting at unprecedented pace. Just in the two percent of the planet covered by the U.S., the last six months has seen the highest rainfall ever recorded (Hurricane Harvey), the longest extreme winds (Irma) and the horrific destruction of Puerto Rico (Maria). Oh, and the biggest wildfire in California history, followed by epic rains that resulted in mudslides that killed 20 people. There is no greater injustice on our planet than the rampant climate change that overwhelms the poor and vulnerable, and since Middlebury invests in fossil fuel, it owns a small piece of each of these sadnesses.

The oil companies have been shown to be dishonest, on a remarkable scale. One knew, five years ago, that they were irresponsible — that their business plan of ever more exploration and drilling was at odds with what every scientist said the atmosphere could absorb. But three years ago great investigative reporting revealed that they had actually known everything about climate change three decades ago, and engaged in a systematic cover-up. That's why cities from San Francisco to New York have filed suit. But whether it turns out to be technically illegal, it's clearly intellectually corrupt; were Exxon a Middlebury student, it would have been rightly disciplined for shading the truth.

Oil and gas investments have proven to be unsound, vastly underperforming the broader equities market. Had the trustees heeded faculty, student and alumni opinion five years ago, the endowment would be larger now, and we could afford more financial aid. Many other investors — including groups like the Rockefeller philanthropies that once invested with Middlebury's own brokers — have broken free and prospered, both morally and financially. But it's not too late: given the rapid plunges in the price of renewable energy, the fossil fuel industry will remain under unrelenting pressure. So there's still money to lose, unless we act.

Divestment turns out to play an enormously positive role. Studies released this year show that it has both dramatically amped up the level of concern and action about global warming, and also cost the fossil fuel industry serious money that it would otherwise have spent on exploration. By contrast, Middlebury's notion that it could usefully "engage" the fossil fuel companies has proven hollow. At a few companies it has produced a few concessions — Exxon, for instance, has said it will start providing "climate risk disclosure" on new projects. But that's not much help: we can see what the climate risk is. And we can also see that they and their trade groups continue to lobby for ever more openings: in just the past month they've won the right to drill off the entire American coast, not to mention inside Alaska's largest wildlife refuge. "Engagement" has turned out to be "cover."

This list of new evidence has convinced many who were at first reluctant. New York City, for instance, capital of the planet's financial system, announced this month it would not only divest from fossil fuel but sue the five largest oil companies for the damages incurred in Hurricane Sandy. In November, the Norwegian sovereign wealth fund took the same step — and that's the largest pool of investment capital on the planet, a trillion dollars earned off North Sea oil. The smart money, in other words, is now fleeing.

We are all, of course, proud of Middlebury. I've spent time on more college campuses than most people, and I've never met a finer president than Laurie Patton; the board of trustees proved its environmental concern when it moved all those Breadloaf acres into permanent conservation status. And now they can prove that education really works — that when new information emerges, as it has over the last half-decade, people can change. If it goes for students, it should go for trustees, and from some of the conversations I've had on campus, I remain hopeful.

In the Trump years, it's clear we can't rely on the government to take care of our biggest problems. We have to do what we can ourselves, *and what Middlebury can do is divest*. Not "some day," not after yet another committee offers yet another report, but as soon as possible, while it still makes a difference. Since I believe that education indeed matters, I believe we will.

Bill McKibben is Schumann Distinguished Scholar in Environmental Studies at Middlebury, and the co-founder of the climate change group 350.org.

Grappling With 'The List,' By the DMC Board

By GEOVANNY MARTINEZ

As Co-President of Distinguished Men of Color (DMC), I was asked by alumni and students what will the organization be doing in response to the "List of Men to Avoid" that came out last semester. I did not know what we could do. Often during board meetings we reflect on past events to guide us through our planning. However, this is first time such an event has occurred while any of us have been on campus. Then it occurred to me that the question isn't what are we going to do in response to this list. The question that the DMC board and everyone should be asking themselves is, what are we going to do in response to the fact that women on this campus and this world are sexual assaulted every day.

During Alumni of Color Weekend, I was sitting in a table with a female alumni at the career lunch. As we were conversing, the list came up and the men at the table (there were three of us) began to tell her how we do not know how to support the women on this campus. We expressed how much we care for the issue of sexual assault and wanted to provide some form of support, but we just didn't know how.

After a few stories were shared, the alumni took a pause and said that she was close to tearing up because she is so proud that men on this campus are beginning to think of ways to support women on issues like this. She went on to explain that if this had occurred during her time on campus, no man would even consider speaking out or writing an op-ed. This took me by surprise – to think that only 20 years ago, women on this campus did not feel any support from men.

Then I realized that this is the case still today. As a collective group, men on this campus are not doing the best job in showing support to victims. I ask every man on this campus to hold themselves accountable, to hold their friends accountable. This issue is bigger than this list.

As a friend of mine told me, "Every man should be in that list." The way we treat women, the way we speak about them, and the way we think about has to improve. It begins with us.

I would also like to point out that men are also sexually assaulted and this is a topic that isn't normally talked about. We would hope that more men begin to feel comfortable with speaking out. Sexual assault is wrong, period. So to all the victims, the board of DMC would like to let you know that we are here to support you in any shape or form. We hope that more men begin to feel comfortable speaking out.

We are planning on having a meeting regarding this issue. We hope that beginning the discussion will be a great first step to a better community. I ask you all to join us and be part of the conversation. All people of color know what it is to be silenced by a society which often ignores our pain, so we privileged men must not do the same to the many survivors. Angry men (or men angry at women for speaking up for themselves) need to understand that #metoo and the general sexual abuse awareness movement is not a movement about hunting down men, but about women who have been hunted by men and are fighting back.

By JULIAN JOSEPH

We are writing as DMC but also as people who feel a responsibility to speak to other men about our rightful place in the #MeToo movement. I think beginning with a brief story would do well to elaborate my point. During Alumni of Color Weekend two weeks ago, I remember sitting down watching the performances at Verbal Onslaught. Everyone went up and spoke eloquently and powerfully. I noticed that most of the male-presenting individuals who spoke were able to speak at length about their own experiences of oppression. To me they seemed passionate and trustworthy. After watching some past members of DMC perform, I figured it would be a good idea to ask how they would have dealt with sexual misconduct allegations, largely towards men of color, and what these allegations would mean for the organization in general. The response I got was that, and for some reason this was not to my complete surprise, I should just brush it under the rug. I was essentially told that we should not touch the issue because it was too "messy."

Here I realized something. We men of color can speak to no end about how systemic racism affects us, and we feel deep frustration towards those who ignore or deny the reality of our circumstances. Yet we can turn around and do the same thing to women of color who are simply seeking the same justice we seek? How can one not see the blatant hypocrisy in that?

When this former board member told me to ignore the pain of survivors, I realized this is what white supremacy has done to POC throughout history, and this is what we, namely cis-men of color, are constantly doing and must stop doing. We need to stop reproducing colonized relationships between genders. I would say that starts with first recognizing the trauma men have caused, and what historical traumas we have reproduced. Denial, anger and intimidation are not the means through which this process starts. Such responses only silence survivors, causing both them and the POC community on the whole even greater harm than we have already endured.

It is disappointing to see so many reactions like this. I think there are some simple ways men of color and men in general can start to break this cycle and be supportive. Mainly, stop calling victims liars. This invalidates experiences and causes survivors to feel even more pain than they already have. Also, if you have been accused of sexual misconduct, understand exactly what you did. One article I saw on theestablishment.com (a multimedia website with excellent articles that I would highly suggest) advises that to this end, abusers should research how sexual harassment actually impacts victims. It also recommends researching rape culture and the lasting effects of sexual abuse and assault on individuals. In general, educate yourself. It is that important. There are informational resources on campus and online. This is for both the growth of yourself and the community.

What Is Justice?

By KYLE LOVELAND

On December 13th, a list was released on Facebook that fractured an already tense student body. The list published the names of 33 "Men to Avoid" on campus next to their stated offenses. Upon reading the register, I could feel the pain and frustration of its author. This was the action of a person who was wounded, angry and fed up with a system that had failed them and many more like them. They decided to take justice into their own hands. This local event coincides with a national movement to embolden women to share their own experiences and, hopefully, to open up a dialogue on consent and power abuse that has been silenced for far too long. This campus is no different, because the procedures that are in place often fail women, even when they do speak up. I acknowledge these systemic problems, and as a straight, white man, I hope to be a part of the solution. However, unsubstantiated accusations are not the solution.

Accompanying the online post that was later distributed in poster form was a note from its author saying, "Feel free to dm me more names to add to this status because I could really give a f[—] about protecting the privacy of abusers." So, the kangaroo court continued, and the list more than doubled in size from the original 16 names. This dangerous form of blacklisting is best depicted in Arthur Miller's The Crucible. Miller uses cutting satire to criticize the fear mongering of McCarthyism and to illustrate the dangers of a witch hunt. As Miller's protagonist, John Proctor, exclaims in frustration, "We are what we always were in Salem, but now the little crazy children are jangling the keys of the kingdom, and common vengeance writes the law!" Now, as then, vengeance should not write the law.

Of course, there could be truth to all of the accusations leveled against these alleged offenders, but the problem is that no one can know for sure. There was no due process. If just one person on the list is innocent, that is one person too many being slandered by a carelessly executed crusade. Our justice system is frustratingly imperfect because it most heavily relies on habeas corpus, or body of the crime. Without substantial evidence that a crime has been committed, no one can be punished. This still applies to cases of sexual assault, where there is frequently little evidence and a great deal on the line. It becomes one person's account versus another's, and sadly, the guilty often go free. For the victim, justice has not been served, but no one is above the law; everyone is innocent until proven guilty. When someone is publicly accused in this fashion, without a trial or evidence to support the claim, that is libel, plain and simple. Libel can ruin people's lives.

In this instance, public shaming is the dangerous weapon of vigilantism. It can quickly go too far, as when labels such as "serial rapist" share space with names that did not have any accusations attached to them. What would happen if one of the falsely accused could not handle the ostracism and took his own life? This is a tragic potential outcome that must not have occurred to the author, who would have to live with that blood on her hands.

By definition, terrorism is the use of intimidation tactics to achieve a financial, political, religious or ideological goal. Former Prime Minister of Israel, Ariel Sharon, said, "There is no good terror and bad terror. Terror is terror." The environment of hostility and fear that a list like this creates allows the seeds of distrust to spread, grow and tear us further apart. Fear alienates men who want to be allies. Fear ends the conversation. Fear is not justice – for anyone.

Memorialization in Cape Town: Confronting Symbols of Colonialism and Apartheid

By JOEY LYONS

Racism is a contemporary problem in South Africa. However, its roots are deep. In Cape Town, monuments to colonialism and apartheid are physical reminders of the city's racially troubled past. Many of these memorials celebrate oppressors, falsely portraying them as heroes. Such misguided historical markers can promote modern injustice. By idolizing white supremacists, Cape Town's colonial and apartheid-era monuments perpetuate a legacy of racism that divides Capetonians and undermines racial progress. At the same time, however, the memorials serve as important reminders of Cape Town's difficult past.

As Capetonians work to reconstruct their public spaces, arguments over colonial and apartheid monuments have erupted. For example, in 2015, students protested the existence of Cecil Rhodes' statue on the University of Cape Town's (UCT) campus. These demonstrations, which evolved into the "Rhodes Must Fall" movement, ignited public debate. Student activists claimed that Rhodes' statue honored a reprehensible man who exploited, dispossessed and oppressed non-white people. These protesters had history on their side, as Rhodes' legacy is horrible.

Rhodes, a British imperialist, was responsible for the displacement, enslavement and deaths of millions of Africans. Using "mercenaries and gangs to evict people from their land," he seized 8.8 million acres for his mining empire and exploited the Africans living on these lands. Rhodes treated African lives as expendable and his "mine workers routinely died during mine explosions and floods." As Prime Minister of the Cape Colony, he laid the foundation for apartheid. Rhodes' treatment of colored and black Africans was abhorrent, so the controversy surrounding his statue was understandable.

The "Rhodes Must Fall" campaign, which attracted considerable media attention, necessitated a response from UCT. After a month of protest, UCT's council recognized that Rhodes' vices outweighed his virtues and decided to remove his memorial. Rhodes fell on April 9, 2015. However, the debate over how South Africans should curate their memorial landscape remains contentious. Symbols of white supremacy and the legacy they uphold continue to linger.

Symbols of white rule are scattered across Cape Town and each has the potential to provoke controversy. Sabelo Mkhabela, a journalist for Livemag, spotted seven memorials to colonizers during one sweep of the city's central business district. As Mkhabela indicated in his article, "Statues from our colonial past," all of the monuments honor figures who persecuted non-whites. These memorials are not going to disappear, so Capetonians, as well as all South Africans, must be more proactive in the way they address such distressing historical symbols. As South Africans confront painful memories, they should look to Germany as an example of how a nation should deal with its grisly past.

In the wake of World War II, the German public experienced a sort of amnesia; they were unable or unwilling to acknowledge the war's atrocities. The Holocaust was so disturbing that the temptation to forget and to repress was powerful. However, in order to maintain this horrific memory, the German government constructed thousands of Holocaust monuments, established museums in almost every major city and opened concentration camps to the public. These efforts remind people that extreme hatred gives rise to persecution and suffering. Similar projects should transform South Africa's memorial landscape, making it a better reflection of both its regrettable apartheid past and its democratic present and future.

Memorialization societies, museums and other public education institutions should recognize colonial and apartheid-era monuments as teaching opportunities. The lives of South Africa's colonizers and oppressors are worth recounting. By telling the unpleasant stories of the country's historical record, educators can make the public more aware of past and present injustice. For instance, putting placards that identify a person's contribution to white supremacy next to a statue would not only acknowledge that figure's imperfect character, but also the nation's legacy of racial oppression. Sibusiso Tshabalala, another writer for Cape Town Partnership, detailed eight other ways the city can contextualize problematic monuments in this article. Contextualization of memorials would educate the public and encourage South Africans to consider the current impact of colonialism and apartheid. It is vital that the country preserve and learn from the past as it seeks to move forward to a bright future.

Editor's note: This op-ed includes many references to news articles, wich are included as hyperlinks in the electronic version of this piece. It can be found at middleburycampus.com.

Is Middlebury's PC Culture Working?

By SABRINA ROBERTS

Since arriving here as an international student, I've noticed the strong activist culture on Middlebury's campus — especially due to events like the Charles Murray demonstrations and the "List" identifying alleged perpetrators of sexual harassment. There is also an element of peer pressure to talk about racism, sexism and privilege in a politically correct way. But even if someone wanted to support these movements, how are they supposed to do so if they aren't educated on the subject? And how are they supposed to educate themselves if it's too taboo to have these conversations on our campus?

From my reading of American news, my experiencing travelling to and living in the US I've reached my definition of PC: to speak or conduct yourself in a manner that is socially conscious, that is aware of other people's opinions and characteristics and aims to not offend them.

My high school was comprised of students with different socioeconomic backgrounds, but similar nationalities, ethnicities and races. When discussing these so-called "touchy subjects," there was a level of comfort at my high school. I could ask my peers "What do your parents do for a living?" without worrying that I would offend them and without making them feel awkward. As someone of socioeconomic privilege, this opportunity changed my outlook on life. I lived my childhood in a bubble and wrongly assumed that everyone around me lived with the same luxuries that I had. But as I got older and had the opportunity to have serious conversations with people in my classes and learn about how their socioeconomic class has impacted their life experience so far, my perspective began to change. Although there were moments where the conversation was uncomfortable, in the end, I became humbler, more knowledgeable. I felt like I was a part of the community. From what my classmates have told me, through sharing their stories, they felt more integrated within the school community, too.

Talking about your race, gender or overall privilege with your peers has the potential to be significant learning experiences. One of the main reasons for leaving home for college is to learn more about what the people and what life is like outside of your hometown, but this can only happen if everyone on campus is feels comfortable having these discussions.

The norm on campus is to be politically correct in order to create an environment that respects and is inclusive of everyone. In theory, this would allow such serious and eye-opening conversations to take place and integrate minority groups into the community. However, in reality, that is not what I have noticed.

Discussions like those are missing on Middlebury's campus. From the conversations I've had with close friends (comprised of both domestic and international students), I have realized that not everyone (including myself) is educated on how to be politically correct and as a result, we find it difficult to talk about topics such as race, socioeconomic status, LGBT rights, etc. with our peers. I am afraid of trying to have a deep conversation with someone and then accidentally being politically incorrect and unknowingly insulting someone. As a result, I stay quiet when other people have these types of discussions, causing me miss out on the learning opportunity. Here, the norm to be PC is not helping these serious discussions to take place; it's stifling these conversations.

The easy answer would be "Just get educated!", but that is much more difficult than it seems. No matter how many articles I read online, I cannot replace the value of directly asking someone which term is most appropriate, "Black people" or "African American"? Is it acceptable to ask "What do your parents do?" or is that too taboo? Theoretically, it would be easy to figure this out through trial and error, but when there is such rampant social shame for people who aren't PC, it's not worth taking the risk.

Even though they may be scary, I still think these conversations surrounding race, gender and privilege are extremely valuable. Students shouldn't feel obliged to participate, but if they want to, they should have the opportunity to become educated and feel comfortable discussing taboo topics.

From my experience, the international students on campus are more open to talking about these kinds of things. I've overheard conversations between domestic and international students. The domestic student would comment, "Wow your English is so good!" and then ask, "Why don't you have an accent?" Rather than being offended by someone assuming that people from foreign countries don't speak English, the international student didn't make a big deal out of it and simply clarified the domestic student's assumptions.

To contribute to resolving this issue, the student body needs to realize that if we don't share our stories with each other, then people's viewpoints will never have such a great opportunity to be broadened. If we want to build bridges between majority and minority groups or simply between groups with contrasting opinions, we need to be willing to have uncomfortable conversations. We need to realize that there is a difference between those who are trying to insult you and those who just haven't had the experience of being PC and as a result, don't know how to deal with the situation. We can also make the effort to socialize outside of our racial or socioeconomic group. Sometimes, even though we know the person didn't insult us on purpose, we may still feel hurt. But, in the long term, it's worth it because the more people are educated on how to have these conversations in a respectful manner, the more we can share our perspectives, learn from our peers and burst our bubbles of assumptions.

There is so much potential to learn during social situations on campus; we need to prioritize helping others learn about our individual situations and how to talk about them over being politically correct 100% of the time.

(Continued from Page A3)

diversity is not naturally occuring on any campus. But the more visible and numerous diversity workers on this campus are students of color who in addition to pursuing their degrees, have to perform anti-racism (the process of resisting systemic white supremacy) daily, whether it means educating non-POCs on the cultural implications of touching their hair or simply ignoring microaggressions.

The daily labor of students of color goes unnoticed and uncompensated. They, as diversity workers, engage everyday in what political theorist Michael Hardt calls "affective labor," or labor rooted in the production and reproduction of emotional sentiment. Being a student means doing schoolwork, maybe having an on-campus job, networking for future jobs, and other daily-performed work. Being a student of color means all this labor plus educating white students, navigating being marked different from the status quo, and having to perform whiteness to gain access to resources, relationships, and opportunities.

While some students of color are able to lighten the load of this labor by floating around campus trying to remain unseen, others are thrust in the midst of the College's diversifying.

Middlebury College is more concerned with diversifying the college's image than tackling the institutional whiteness that permeates the walls of Old Chapel. It only takes a quick look at College media and resources to see how the College uses pictures of black and brown bodies as an advertising strategy. It coerces black and brown voices in debates about free speech and inclusion, making marginalized populations do extra diversity labor in presenting the POC view. The College uses black and brown lives to continue to accumulate capital in the $1billion endowment.

Meanwhile, inside Old Chapel, thirteen out of seventeen members (76%) of the Senior Leadership Group are white, and twenty-six of the thirty-three trustees (78%) (who are visiting this week by the way) are white. Cultural competency training for faculty is still only optional. The College values "free speech" more than the mental health of students of color on this campus, while simultaneously ignoring the suggestions and demands of students of color. And dare I say racial profiling still remains a poorly addressed issue.

Middlebury College should pay students of color. While students of color on this campus languish and struggle, the College undoubtedly profits. Its half-hearted attempts at institutionalizing diversity lack meaning, when students of color are constantly having their labor exploited.

As I said above, students of color and their allies have had major success on this campus. But until now spaces, like DMC, WOC, and PALANA house, and diversity initiatives have largely been made successful through their hard work. If the College isn't interested or invested in institutionalizing antiracism, the College should take responsibility for paying students of color for their daily diversity labor, I am not kidding.

Snow Removal Staff Tackles Winter Weather

By JAMES FINN
Features Editor

During the winter months, snowy weather becomes embedded in the daily routines of students and staff alike. Snow opens up valuable opportunities, such as pursuit of popular winter sports and outdoor activities, and simultaneously creates challenges for those who live at the college. When a winter storm approaches many students anticipate the coming snow with excitement, preparing to make the trek to Sugarbush or the snowbowl after fresh powder has fallen. But while students plan their winter sports excursions or hunker down in their dorms to avoid the cold, a huge team works quickly, efficiently and tirelessly to prepare the campus for approaching inclement weather. As a snowstorm approaches, an array of shovel and plow crews run by Facilities Services prepares to clear the campus of impending snowfall.

College Landscape Supervisor Clinton "Buzz" Snyder and Assistant Director of Facilities for Maintenance and Operations Luther Tenny work together in order to oversee snow removal operations. Snyder has worked at the college for four years, and drives a plow during snow removal operations, and Tenny has occupied his position for the past 14 years. When word of an impending snow storm emerges, the two decide on the scale and logistics of initiating a removal operation. "Luther and I stay in close contact because between the two of us we make the decision and the call on snow," Snyder said. "We both are constantly looking at the weather."

Tenny said that he and Snyder consider an array of factors in evaluating how to tackle a typical "snow event." "Usually a snow event is when campus is iced over considerably or we've gotten more than an inch of snow and we have to check every entry and plow," he said. "So Clinton and I work together taking all these factors into account. Do we have classes tomorrow? What do we have for events tonight? How many staff members are either unavailable or out sick can tell us how early we need to come in to be campus ready by the morning so folks can come in, park their cars, get to the buildings, get to the dining halls, stuff like that."

When a typical winter storm hits (Tenny refers to a "typical snow event" as a foot of snow or less) 14 snow plows, each with its own route around campus, as well as ten crews of shovelers, mobilize. Tenny calls workers from a list organized by the distance that the employees live from the college (workers who live in New York are called in earlier than those who live in Middlebury, for example). Plow crews arrive early, around 4:00 a.m., and begin clearing roads and walkways. These crews include both "sidewalk plows" that work to clear walkways and larger plows that work to clear roads and parking lots, both on campus and surrounding campus buildings as far away as Weybridge, Homestead and the Mill. Shovelers arrive two to three hours later and begin clearing the doorways of over 120 college buildings. As ice builds up on walkways, salt has to be laid down.

Steve Santor, who operates a plow for a crew that works on the northern end of campus, said that the early start time allows the plow crews to function most efficiently. "The idea behind [the early start time] is it's just less traffic," Santor said. "We can get out on the sidewalks and roadways where the employees are parking their cars, get that parking lot clear, etc. We can get some of the main sidewalks clear so the shovelers can easily get started maneuvering around when they arrive later."

The shovelers, who arrive two to three hours after the plow crews, have a grueling job: clearing all entryways by hand. "Every door has to be cleared," Snyder said of the shoveler's work. "Every entry, every AVA ramp. The sidewalk tractors have about 11 miles of sidewalk to do if you want to get into detail....We also have the outside properties, so we're not just doing the regular campus. We're doing, you know, the houses down south street, drives and homes."

Plow operator Brian Paquette, who works with the north crew along with Santor, said that the snow removal operation has expanded as the size of the college has increased. "Over just the last five years or so, the campus has grown quite a bit," he said. "So our workload goes up and our standards go up as well. [Of] some other campuses and other things I've seen, we're definitely up there as far as standards are concerned with safety, snow and ice removal. The first thing we check on every single morning this time of year during the winter is, is there ice? Is there snow? Is everything safe for everybody?"

Tenny said that storms that clash with warm temperatures, which bring ice on the ground and a resulting wealth of safety hazards, are the most challenging to deal with. Fresh, normal snow is much easier to handle. "I will take a foot of fresh, fluffy snow -- it's so easy to move," he said. " The hard storms are the ones like this past Saturday [January 13] where it starts off as rain. It was 57 degrees at 8 o'clock that night, and within a two hour window it dropped to below 32 degrees. And that's when all of that rain then turns to ice and then sleet."

Safety is a huge focus for the snow removal staff, which has been injury free for two years, according to Snyder. Snyder said that when a snowstorm hits, there are a number of steps students can take to increase their safety, the safety of those around them, and the ease of the staff's job. It starts with simple spatial awareness. "Students should just be aware of us out there," Snyder said. "We're driving...equipment that's got lights going, it's loud, and we literally have to stop, which we should anyway, but there are so many students that will just come out of nowhere and come right around and it's like, where did that person come from? Be aware, be cautious, stop when you see us working."

AIDAN ACOSTA
Steve Santor (left) and Brian Paquette (right) operate snowplows on the north end of campus.

Founder of Moscow Times Discusses Media in Russia

By MIGUEL ESPINOSA
Features Editor

On the evening of Thursday, January 18, students and faculty gathered at the Robert A. Jones Conference Room to hear the talk "Russian Media Today," delivered by Derk Sauer, CEO and founder of the Moscow Times. Sauer offered insights into the social, economic and political conditions affecting Russia, and shared how his publishing company gained popularity. Headquartered in the Russian capital, the Moscow Times is a weekly English-language newspaper first published in 1992.

To begin his talk, Sauer presented a reality of Russia misunderstood by most Americans. He insisted that Putin and Russia "are not the same thing," and that people are mistaken to focus their attention on one person when examining the political character of a nation. Many people in Russia actually disassociate themselves from Putin. Sauer admits, however, that talking about Russia is difficult because of its massive size and diverse population. He suggests attempting to understand the country as belonging to three different societies.

The first society comprises those living away from the cities, many of whom are unable to access today's technology. Sauer even compares their lifestyle to being stuck in time 100 years ago.

The second society contains private enterprises. Currently, Russia is experiencing growth in the technology sector, with some locations incubating startups like Silicon Valley's. Sauer considered the Moscow Times to belong to this category before it was sold, since he needed to find and attract a market to become successful. Interestingly, he pointed out that more women lead companies in Russia than anywhere else in Europe or the United States.

The third society consists of rich industrialist oligarchs. He estimates that there are 1,000 people in Moscow who know each other and are in control of the city's important institutions. One famous example brought up by Sauer was Mikhail Prokhorov, who gained his fortune producing nickel and palladium and was wealthy enough to become owner of the Brooklyn Nets.

For the past 20 years, some of the most powerful oligarchs have included media owners because media is used to influence public opinion. With money being exchanged for articles, Sauer insists that journalism in Russia is corrupted. Conversely, newspapers in Russia threaten companies with malicious articles in return for advertisements.

As the talk progressed, Sauer spoke at length about managing the Moscow Times. He humorously recalled how he once fired 1,000 employees because he encountered many people who were unsure of their jobs at the company. Sauer considered such organizational inefficiency to be very "Soviet."

The Moscow Times' popularity began to skyrocket during the Ukrainian crisis in 2014. The Times was the only media company to cover the event, and it became the biggest news outlet in the country, exceeding state television. Once the company became profitable, Sauer sold it to Prokhorov, who initially refused the offer out of fear of upsetting the Kremlin. Despite his enormous power over the newspaper, Prokhorov never told the Times what to write.

Sauer shared his own stories about his troubles with the Kremlin. The Moscow Times reported that Putin's son-in-law became a billionaire at 32 because the state bank gave him $1.3 billion to buy shares in the company where he works. The Times also wrote about Putin's daughter becoming the chair of an important real estate committee in Russia. Such stories did not sit well with the Kremlin, and Prokhorov's offices were raided as a result. For the Moscow Times, the message was clear: writing about Putin and his inner circle was off-limits. Prokhorov was forced to sell the newspaper, and Sauer eventually left Russia.

After the talk was finished, Sauer opened the floor for questions.

"Media is a big way [Russia] control[s] information, and so knowing how the media works lets you really understand how to play the game in Russia," said Charles Smith '20. "If you don't play the game, they'll kick out the country, or put you in jail, or have you killed. It's sort of a critical way of understanding how business works in the country, how politics works, pretty much how everything works. So if you can follow the flow of information, you can make a connection."

Time Editor Keynotes Women Leaders Summit

By KAYLA LICHTMAN
Contributing Writer

The Middlebury Women Leaders group launched their first ever Middlebury Women's Leadership Symposium this past week with the goal of empowering women and providing an open forum to discuss women's issues. Club President Erin Van Gessel '17.5 said that the "impetus for the symposium was to commemorate the Women's March from 2017 and keep the momentum around women's empowerment going into 2018."

On Friday, keynote speaker Nancy Gibbs sat down with Van Gessel in Wilson Hall to discuss her career in journalism and offer advice to students.

An accomplished writer, leader, author and student, Gibbs makes for a powerful role model. As the first female editor-in-chief of TIME magazine, she led the transition from print magazine to digital media company, introduced the Firsts project and made way for TIME magazine to become the biggest news media brand on Instagram. Before beginning her illustrious career at TIME, Gibbs graduated from Yale summa cum laude with honors in history. She also holds a degree in politics and philosophy from Oxford, where she was a Marshall Scholar. She is, as Gessel said, "a fantastic role model for women at Middlebury who want to seek out challenging careers after college."

Gessel began the discussion by asking if Gibbs had always dreamt of being editor-in-chief. On the contrary, Gibbs told the audience that her ultimate goal had always been to be a writer, as writing "would give you a front-row seat on the most interesting people, the most interesting stories." This proved to be true for Gibbs. After being hired by TIME as a fact checker in 1985, she was eventually promoted to a writer's position where, she said, "the view was every bit as fascinating as I had hoped." In her 32-year career at TIME, Gibbs spent 25 of those years writing, eventually gaining the nickname "Babe Ruth" for logging a mountainous number of cover stories – 175 to be exact – more than any other writer in the history of the magazine.

Gibbs admitted that she had no managerial background or prior experience handling budgets when the time came for her to step into the shoes of editor-in-chief. However, as TIME was undergoing a transition period, she knew it was time to "get the hell out of [my] comfort zone" and tackle the job.

The conversation then turned to the topic of women leaders. When she took the job as lead editor in 2013, Gibbs felt "so accustomed to seeing women in leadership positions" that she felt no obligation to be a role model to women. The glass ceiling, she felt, had already been broken. To her surprise, she received an outpouring of support from women who saw her promotion as a symbol of progress.

Gibb said she owed part of her comfort in taking on the leadership position to her parents, who always told her she could do anything. "If you're interested in something, do it; if there's a door closed, bang on it," she said. This is a message she has passed onto her own daughters as well. While she felt that the importance of her being the first female editor-in-chief was not her gender but the experience she had to offer, Gibbs embraced the role, using her position to fight for equal pay and to highlight extraordinary women.

One of the first things Gibbs did as editor was assess the salaries of women to make sure they were equivalent to men working the same job. "[There were] all kinds of inequities in compensation that I didn't think necessarily made sense," she said. Something that became glaringly obvious was the fact that the men on her staff were far more likely to ask for a promotion than the women were. She also noted an unfortunate penalty for loyalty that affected both men and women. "If you come in and do well and are constantly promoted, you still may not be paid as well as someone who is brought in from the outside to do the same job," she said.

In 2017, under Gibbs' leadership, TIME launched the Firsts project, celebrating powerful women such as Oprah, Madeleine Albright and Aretha Franklin – all trailblazers in their fields. The idea, Gibbs said, came from watching "glass ceilings being broken and wanting to look at what that experience is like." The women – artists, athletes, TV hosts, diplomats and more – span a diverse range of careers but comprise a collective array of powerful role models.

During the Q&A session, Gibbs discussed the relationship between President Trump and the press, framing it within the context of previous presidencies. "I haven't met a lot of politicians who are in love with my profession," she said, to the laughter of the audience. The difference now, she discussed, is the widening gap between parties in considering whether the press' enduring role should be that of a watchdog. In any case, Gibbs said that despite the President's rather tempestuous relationship with journalists, she has "not seen it in any way" stop reporters from doing their job.

EMMA STAPLETON
Nancy Gibbs.

Gibbs ended by discussing her guiding principles as a leader and offering advice to the students in the room. As a leader, she advised, "surround yourself with people who are better, and smarter, and more talented than you are. And then you will succeed." "Recognize that you can't do everything," she added, and empower those who can do what you need them to. To students, she recommended "talk[ing] to as many people as you can" before going into any field.

Alongside Nancy Gibbs' visit, the symposium included a conflict mediation workshop led by President Patton, a "Lean In" conversation about women in the workforce, a discussion on feminism with local Nulhegan Abenaki Native American women and a fashion-show fundraiser for She Should Run, a nonpartisan nonprofit that helps women run for political offices.

Math Professor Speaks About Unproven Conjecture

By COURTENAY ROCHE
Contributing Writer

Whether they were math majors or hadn't taken a class since high school precalculus, every member of the audience in Twilight Auditorium was enraptured by Professor of Mathematics David Dorman's lecture "Right Triangles, Elliptical Curves, and the Conjecture of Birch and Swinnerton-Dyer." The lecture was held on Wednesday, January 18 as part of the Carol Rifelj lecture series. The series is named after the late Carol de Dobay Rifelj and aims to showcase faculty research. Dorman's research involved the history of a conjecture in the field of number theory that defines the set of points that make up an elliptic curve.

The idea for the lecture, Dorman says, came from a dinner-party conversation with a non-mathematician who was curious about his research. Rather than trying to explain the complexities of number theory at the dinner table, Dorman took the conversation to the lecture hall. He prefaced his talk by warning that it can take many years of graduate school to understand the problems he's trying to solve, let alone solve them.

The Conjecture of Birch and Swinnerton-Dyer is named after the mathematicians who developed it in the 1960s: Bryan Birch and Peter Swinnerton-Dyer. The conjecture is such a central problem in mathematics that the Clay Mathematics Institute listed it as one of seven Millennium Prize Problems. The Clay Institute has offered $1,000,000 to anyone who can prove the conjecture or any of the other six extraordinarily challenging prize problems.

Dorman's lecture set out not to solve the Birch and Swinnerton-Dyer conjecture and collect its million-dollar bounty, but merely to explain it.

"It's actually very difficult to give a mathematics talk to non-mathematicians, because you can't assume anything," Dorman said. In order to make the lecture accessible to mathematicians and non-mathematicians alike, Dorman decided to start his explanation of the Birch and Swinnerton-Dyer conjecture at the very beginning: the basics of right triangles, congruent numbers and the Pythagorean theorem. As the talk progressed, it touched on more complex topics such as elliptic curves, ranks of curves, and finally L-functions, all subjects that can take years of study to comprehend.

"You try and layer math talks that way, " Dorman said. "Make sure everyone understands what's going on at first, and then you say, 'How many people am I willing to lose, if any, and when should I lose them?' I spent weeks trying to figure out how to make that easy."

To supplement the discrete mathematical aspect of the lecture, Dorman included a rich history of the conjecture that started in 1225 B.C. with the study of congruent numbers, or positive integers that are the areas of right triangles with three rational-number sides. Generating congruent numbers and discovering which numbers are congruent is an arduous process and one for which there exists no natural ordering. It wasn't until the 1950's that Birch and Swinnerton-Dyer discovered a connection between elliptic curves and finding congruent numbers, whence their conjecture was born.

This thousand-year process of identifying and solving problems is at the crux of studying mathematics. Mathematicians don't spend all their time on the "big" problems; rather, they slowly chip away at them while entertaining smaller problems.

"You have a number of things that you're working on at the same time," Dorman said to describe how mathematicians approach their research. "It's like a stove, so you've got something simmering on the back burner and it's gonna be cooking for a long time. Those are the hard projects. And there are the ones in front that you're working on, that hopefully are easier and that you can make progress on."

When a theory is finally proven, it can open up the door to an entire new field of mathematics and an infinite number of new problems to solve. Discovering a new problem, like the points that make up elliptic curves, can suddenly become central to solving a potentially centuries-old problem like the congruent number problem. That is how conjectures such as Birch and Swinnterton-Dyer's become so famous.

"A lot of people are working on this problem, so it became an important problem. It's not like someone says, 'OK, this one is important;' people just realize that it is central to the topic. So if we solved this one, we'd be a lot closer to solving the other problem," Dorman said.

Though the implications of proven theories may not always reach far beyond the world of mathematics, Dorman believes there can be great beauty in the process itself.

"It's like poetry. Is the world really better because of this haiku? And the answer is, actually, yes."

Dorman also fundamentally believes in the beauty of a solving a simpler problem: getting students to understand difficult concepts. When not examining the world's most challenging math problems, Dorman teaches a number of algebraic geometry and number-theory-related math classes, including "The Magic of Numbers" and "Abstract Algebra." Some of his most successful math days, he says, are when he is able to boil down complex subjects to make them more accessible.

Dorman's lecture could certainly be considered a successful math day. The professor said it finally provided an answer to his dinner party guest's seemingly innocuous question — and they're still friends, too!

Reel Critic: "The Florida Project"

By DEVIN McGRATH-CONWELL
Senior Columnist

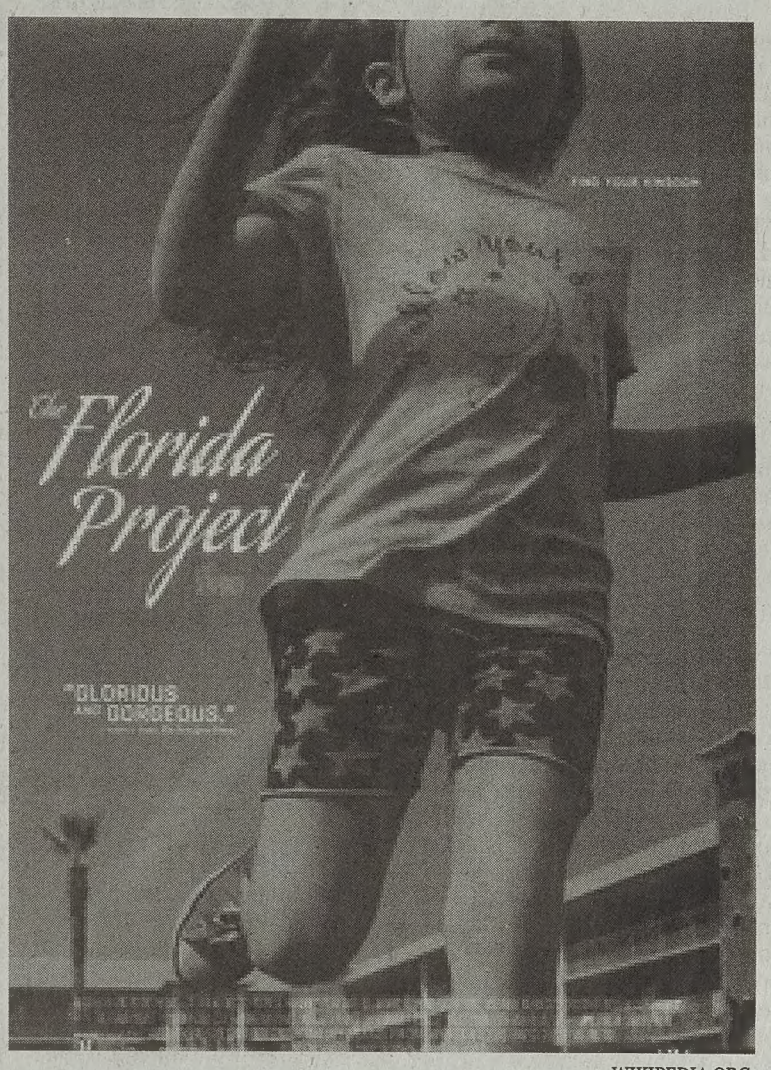
"The Florida Project" (2017) follows six-year old Moonee (Brooklynn Prince) and her friends Scooty (Christopher Riviera) and Jancey (Valeria Cotto) through their summertime adventures among the string of motels in Kissimmee, Florida, just outside Disney World, where they all live. Moonee's mother, Halley (Bria Vinaite), leaves her daughter mostly unsupervised, a trend repeated by each of the children's caretakers. Yet they are not without someone to watch over them, as Bobby (Willem Dafoe), the manager of The Magic Castle, the motel where Moonee and Halley live, acts as a crusty guardian angel. The children and their families are part of the forgotten homeless Americans who may have a roof over their heads week-to-week but have no plans or prospects for long-term housing. Director Sean Baker ushers the viewer into their world, taking an approach most comparable to Richard Linklater with Boyhood (2014), steeping us in the experiences of his characters. In fact, many of the supporting figures in the film are portrayed by actual residents of the motels, blending fact and fiction in this depiction of daily life.

Every directorial decision emphasizes the fact that this is a story about the children that populate this world. Baker's camera often sits lower than is conventional, following Moonee and her friends as they hide under the stairway at The Magic Castle, a place completely their own because no adult would comfortably fit underneath its arches. The setting itself takes on an almost surreal feel, from the peeling lilac paint of The Magic Castle to the enormous fruit-shaped Orange World (a shop that we imagine specializes in orange related memorabilia). The very existence of a street sign for "Seven Dwarfs Ln." suggest a child's slightly mystified view of the world. It is as if Disney World spilled out from the confines of the park and expanded to fill the world around it, but grew only into a demystified image of its former self. Baker relishes the cognitive dissonance in how Disney lords over the narrative while only rarely directly entering in, saving its full debut for a moment I won't spoil.

In one of his most haunting images, Halley takes Moonee and Jancey to the waterside to watch the park's fireworks. They are far away and seemingly innumerable motels and freeways lie between them and Disney World. For a moment they sit in darkness, interrupted by the explosions. Under a red-stained sky, the three sit celebrating Jancey's birthday, but all I could think about was the sheer amount of distance the shot conveyed. Just beyond their view are a multitude of families sitting under the same fireworks, enjoying the privilege of their decadent vacations. Halley and the girls are well aware of them, but there is no indication that those within the park have any idea of what sits just outside their "magic kingdom," a fact that gave me a sense of profound sadness.

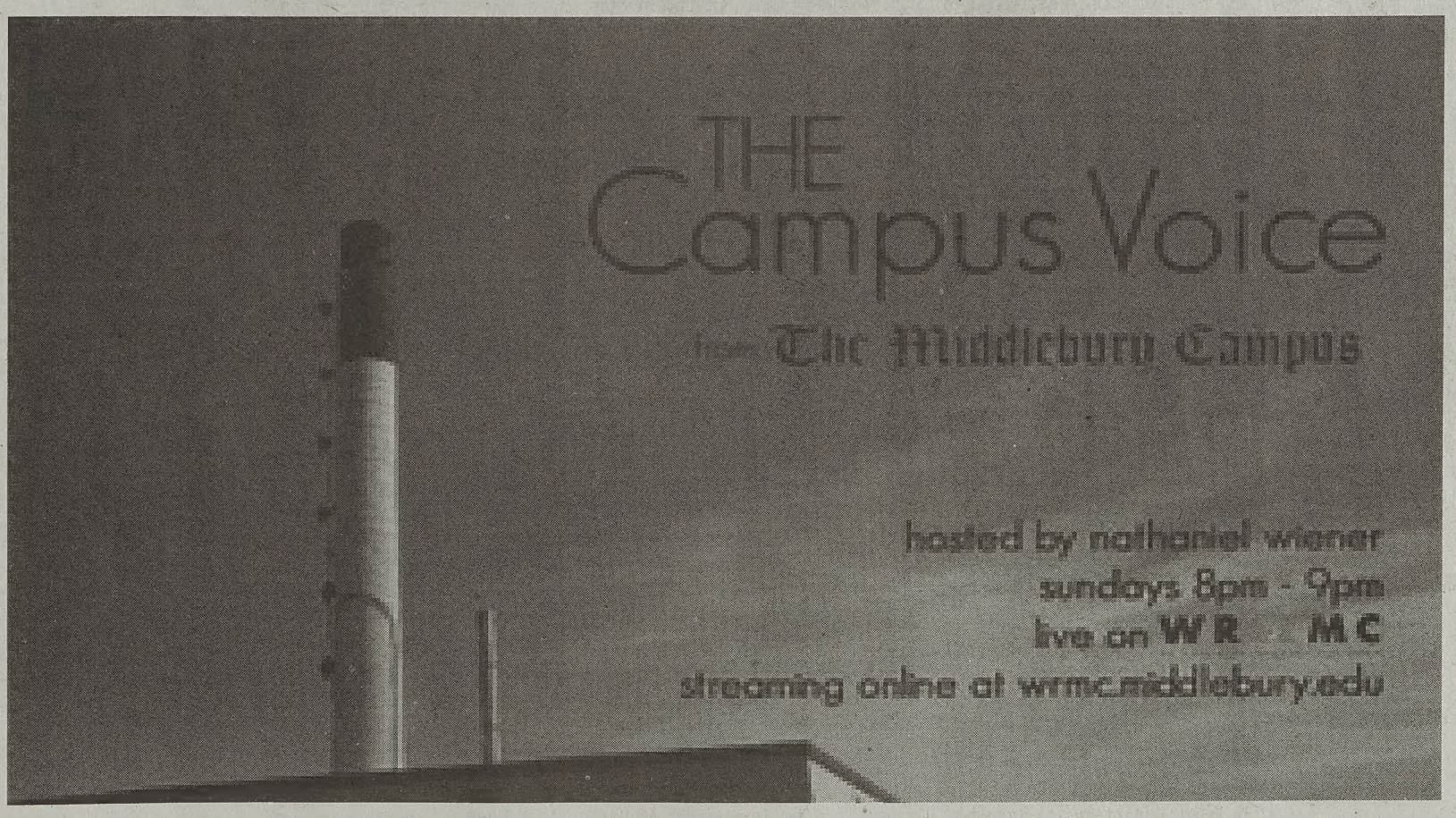
No story about children works without a talented child to anchor it, and the crackling ray of sunshine that is Brooklynn Prince does just that. Prince was only six at the time of filming, the same age as the character that she played, and the expressive range and performative talent she displays is truly remarkable. Giving a tour of The Magic Castle to Jancey, who lives at a neighboring motel, she tells her about each room, from the one with "the woman who thinks she's married to Jesus" to another with a man who "gets arrested a lot." Her delivery is natural and metered, with the wrist flicks and flourishes of an excited child showing off her world to someone new. It is shot through with genuine strokes that could easily seem forced, but never do. Baker recognizes what he has with Prince, and capitalizes on it. Near the end of the film, Halley sneaks Moonee and Jancey into a ritzy hotel nearby to take advantage of the continental breakfast, and Baker settles his camera in close-up on Prince as she eats. She lists the foods she's having, and talks about how 'pregnant' she'll look after breakfast. It is equally adorable and heartbreaking, a young girl finding joy in what many may consider such a small thing.

Hovering over and accenting Prince's performance is the work turned in by Dafoe as Bobby. Throughout his career, Dafoe has made a name for himself playing memorable supporting roles that elevate the piece they are a part of. The Academy nominated him for his portrayal of the thoughtful and morally grounded Sgt. Elias in "Platoon" (1986), which brought empathy and humanism to the horrors of the Vietnam War. He was not the focus, but his domination of each of his scenes made him one of its most memorable parts. If it were not for the tour-de-force work that Prince delivered here, I believe the same would have held true. That withstanding, Dafoe permeates the story. The children may often see him as spoiling their good fun, but it is with a firm and caring hand that he steers them away from the greatest dangers that could befall them. At one moment, an older gentleman wanders onto the property and begins chatting with the children, who are innocently playing around a pair of picnic tables. Bobby is painting a layer of yellow trim on the motel, but he notices this new figure, and it distracts him enough that he drops the can of paint. We feel his concern mount, and when he walks over to confront the man it is with a smile and a deference that shield bubbling rage as we come to understand the sinister nature of this man's intentions. Dafoe's performance makes Bobby inseparable from the motel, and his deep sadness in trying to help these children without being able to save them is palpable.



WIKIPEDIA.ORG

Watching The Florida Project for me was one of those rare cinematic experiences when I have to remind myself I'm watching a fictional world. The care and precision with which Baker portrays this world is masterful, so that even with its seemingly heightened and carefully chosen details it's easy to lose yourself within it. Each cast member, with the standouts Prince and Dafoe, seem so deeply woven into this world that all of their motions and lines blend into a work of beauty. There can be no real fairy tale ending for these children, nor for their real life counterparts out in the world, but that does not preclude them from deserving a story of grace and humor.



The J-Term Workshop of Your Dreams

By CAROLINE JASCHKE
Staff Writer

On Wednesday nights in the Scott Center, Daniel Morris '20 makes tea and leads students through a workshop exploring the psychological, philosophical, scientific and spiritual aspects of sleep, dreaming and lucidity.

For Morris, sleep and dreaming are not a mere idle fascination, but a long held passion. As a middle school student, Morris happened to pick up a book exploring sleep and dreams. The book sparked an interest that has not wavered since. Over the years, Morris has read countless books and scientific articles on the subject and made dream journaling, reality checks and meditation part of his daily routine.

As a neuroscience major and religion minor, Morris has found that sleep and dreaming are interesting bridges between the two subjects.

"Buddhism questions the existence of a self and questions what is real and permanent," he said.

Dreaming also raises questions about what is real. Examining sleep and dreaming through both a neuroscientific and religious lens provides an interdisciplinary perspective.

"I'm interested in looking at dreaming as a reflection on waking life and how your relationship to your waking life appears in your dreams," Morris said.

Toni Cross '18, a student in the workshop, said she has learned more about how sleep patterns and dreams vary from person to person.,

"The first night we went around and gave a little introduction," Cross said. "I didn't realize there is so much variation in people's sleep patterns and dreams. Some people lucid dream every night. Some people had never lucid dreamed and wanted to. In a lot of my dreams, I'm not in them; I'm living out the dream as someone else. The other students were shocked by this."

In order to increase awareness of dreaming, called lucid dreaming, Morris has taught the students to make reality checks. Dreams can appear very real, so there are a few simple techniques to test "am I dreaming?" Morris tells his peers to look at text or a clock, then look away and will it to change, then look back to see if the text morphs or the time switches. You can also cover your nostrils and try breathing in. If you can breathe in, you're dreaming. In the 30 minutes Morris and I were sitting in Crossroads talking about his workshop, he told me he had conducted several reality checks.

"Just talking about dreams and sleep made me remember things I had repressed from my childhood – like out of body experiences where I wasn't sure if I was awake or sleeping."
TONI CROSS '18

Another technique for improving sleep and increasing chances of a lucid dream is dream journaling. Before bed, Morris recommends writing down the time you go to bed and any events from the day to help clear your mind. He also suggests writing down something you have improved on related to sleep, dreaming and lucidity. In the morning, you write down the time you woke up and any dreams you can remember.

A third technique, called Mnemonically Induced Lucid Dream (MILD), is one of the most effective induction techniques. MILD can be used right after waking up from a dream or right before bed. First, you recall a recent dream, visualize yourself in it and notice its bizarre aspects. Next, you imagine yourself becoming lucid in the dream and then visualize the details of your experience in a lucid dream. By repeating these steps over and over in your head before falling asleep, you increase the likelihood that you will become aware of your dreams.

So what exactly does one do when in a lucid dream? Well, anything. Morris recommends doing something that engages with one of your senses.

"Eating is really cool and singing is really cool in lucid dreams," he said. "Dreams can have a quality of synesthesia and everything feels extra real, more vivid, more present."

For his third workshop, Morris plans to draw on his background as a neuroscience major to discuss the brain chemistry behind sleeping and dreaming. He will talk about supplements that help strengthen sleep like 5-HTP, a supplement that helps with deep sleep by increasing levels of the neurotransmitter serotonin in the brain. He will also cover the natural supplement galantamine, which can be used to promote lucid dreaming. At higher dosages, galantamine is used to treat Alzheimer's because its ability to increase acetylcholine levels is useful for memory.

The workshop has also explored dream analysis. Participants sent Morris their dreams and then the workshop discussed their possible meanings.

"[It's] an environment where you can talk about what you've dreamt about without people interrupting," Cross said. "Just talking about dreams and sleep made me remember things I had repressed from my childhood – like out of body experiences where I wasn't sure if I was awake or sleeping." Since beginning the workshop, Cross has started implementing the reality checks Morris introduced.

Morris hopes that participants walk away from his workshop with a better understanding of sleeping and dreaming and a desire to explore both further.

"My growth in waking life has always been mirrored by my growth in sleeping life," Morris said. He hopes his workshop participants can find this, too. He is also thinking about continuing the workshop into the spring semester. Looking even further down the road, Morris is considering combining his passion for neuroscience, sleep and dreaming by pursuing graduate school for neuroscience and sleep research.

"Cabaret" Comes to Town

MAX KRAUS

The cast of the J-Term musical, "Cabaret," preps for their Jan. 26-29 run at the Town Hall Theatre. Said Town Hall Theatre Executive Director Doug Anderson, "We're attempting something very brave and difficult that puts a lot of demands on the performers. It's been a great process."

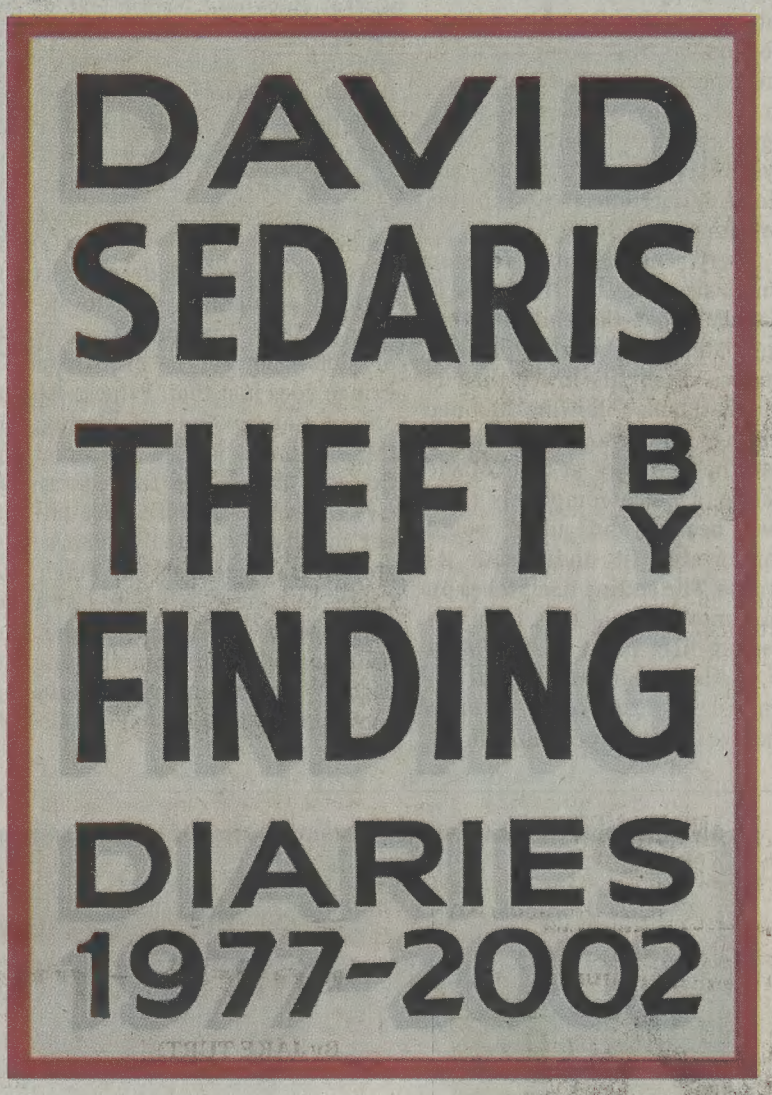
The Librarian Is In

By KATRINA SPENCER
Senoir Columnist

Literatures and cultures librarian Katrina Spencer is liaison to the Anderson Freeman Center, the Arabic department, the French department, the Gender Sexuality & Feminist Studies (GSFS Program), the Language Schools, Linguistics and the Spanish & Portuguese departments. These affiliations are reflected in her reading choices. "While I am a very slow reader, I'm a very critical reader," she says.

Pages: 243

"Theft by Finding: Diaries 1977-2002" by David Sedaris



EBOOK4EXPERT

THE WHAT

Humorist David Sedaris chronicles and shares 25 years of his life in his diaries. His adventures in apple-picking, exploring his sexual identity and drug use in his early 20s are all recorded in his entries and reveal the fodder that has inspired his 10 tomes of stories, encounters, (mis)adventures and the narratives he has shared via National Public Radio's "This American Life" for years. Entries from his later years cover his experience as an expatriate in France and the challenges of foreign language learning, the mundanity of his tour circuits as a best-selling author and the comfort of his long-term, romantic partnership with Hugh.

THE WHY

I first heard Sedaris sharing his writings on the radio in the late 2000s. They were quirky and wry, both leading factors in their appeal. He talked about the Bible Belt of the South, a world that was foreign to me, and what it was like growing up there sensitive, male and queer. As a member of an oppressed minority group, he was obliged to conceal parts of his identity for his own protection; his story immediately inspired my compassion and I have been keeping loose track of his career ever since. I went to see him read in Columbia, Missouri once and have followed his essays whenever possible, such as "Now We Are Five," which tells of his sister Tiffany's 2013 suicide.

"Theft," readers will see, does some presaging of events to follow. Another of Sedaris's sisters, Amy Sedaris, has, like her brother, been successful in entertainment, and is featured as a regular on "The Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt" and voices the anthropomorphic Princess Carolyn on the animated Netflix series "Bojack Horseman." The two are a pair of comedic talents and the diaries reveal that the two cut their teeth on public displays of humor together on the New York theater scene before making it big.

Rating: 3/5 cardigans

While David Sedaris retains my undying admiration, here I wish he would have given us less. At over 500 pages, this is the longest book I've ever read and it took me months of visits and revisits to make the necessary progress to write this review. Another edit for length would make the text more potent, but, of course, less thorough. I think this memoir could still span the same length of time in 300 pages. When I laughed, it was genuine, but it wasn't as frequent as I would have expected. As a lover of language, I especially enjoyed Sedaris's language-based foibles in French. I also loved the way the author so effortlessly puts U.S. society's hypocrisies and shortcomings on display while generally eschewing judgment of the flawed characters he encounters. Sedaris realizes quite readily that he, too, is as odd and imperfect as the people he meets and the rest of us in between.

DON'T MISS THIS

The Dance Company of Middlebury: Native+Stranger
Native + Stranger is an interdisciplinary exploration of individuality, place, acquisition, lineage, and the construction of identity. Artistic Director Christal Brown collaborates with Rulan Tangen, Artistic Director of Dancing Earth, over two semesters. Tickets: $15/$12/$6
1/26, Friday, 8-10:00 p.m., MCA, Dance Theatre

Feminist Science Art Show
Come check out a gallery of creative works that incorporate both feminism and science! There is no fee to enter and snacks will be provided during midday. Some of the pieces will be displayed on a semi-permanent basis in Ross Commons.Admission: Free
1/29, Monday, 9 a.m.,-6 p.m., Dana Auditorium

Reading by Two Recent Graduates with Major Books
A reading by Lauren Markham, '06, and Sierra Murdoch '09.5, who return to Middlebury to co-teach their J-term class, "Writing What You Don't Know: The Ethics and Craft of Narrative Journalism."
1/30, Tuesday, 8-9:30 p.m., Wilson Hall, McCullough Student Center

SPORTS

Ski Squads Have Historic Weekend on Slopes

Alpine Women's Team Takes Giant Slalom for First First Time since 2015, Nordic Men's Gets First On-Day Win Since 2009

MICHAEL O'HARA

The alpine skiing teams raced in the Colby Carnival last weekend, and the women's team, led by Caroline Bartlett '19's second-place finish, tied for first with Dartmouth.

MEN'S BASKETBALL NETS BIG WIN OVER WILLIAMS

AIDAN ACOSTA

With their 70–66 victory last Saturday, Jan. 20, over Williams, the men's basketball team has moved into the top spot in the Nescac standings.

B8

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL GETS WIN IN WILLIAMSTOWN, MOVES TO 3–2 IN NESCAC

MIDDLEBURY ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS

With a 16-point lead early in the fourth, the Panthers hung on to beat the Ephs in Williamstown by a score of 57–54.

B6

MEN'S AND WOMEN'S SQUASH CLOSES HOME SLATE WITH MIXED RESULTS

MIDDLEBURY ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS

The men's side lost 5–4 and 6–3 against Franklin and Marshall and Cornell. The women's side closed their home schedule by maintaining their strong position in the rankings with a 6–3 win over the Diplomats but losing 9–0 to Cornell.

Women's B2 Men's B7

PLAYER AND TEAM OF THE WEEK

B2

NOTES FROM THE NESCAC

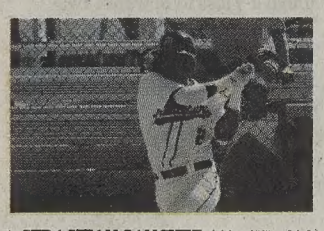
B2

EDITORS' PICKS

B3

3. ETHAN BRADY (24–22, .522)

4. ROB ERICKSON (56–63, .471)



5. SEBASTIAN SANCHEZ (52–77 .403)

Bartlett and Wolter Lead Panthers to Victory

By JAKE TURTEL

The Alpine Ski Team opened up their season last weekend at Sugarloaf Mountain in Carabassett, Maine. High winds cancelled the first day of the Colby Carnival, but the Panthers got on the mountain this past Sunday.

The women's side finished in a tie for first place with Dartmouth, finishing with 226 points in the Giant Slalom. Leading the way was Caroline Bartlett '19 who posted a day-best 1:00.81 in her first run. Bartlett followed that performance by crossing the line at 1:03.5, giving her a second-place finish on the day. The other top-10 finishers for the Panthers was Jackie Atkins '20, who finished in 2:07.15 overall, good for sixth place. Lexi Calcagni '19 was just behind at 11th place with a 2:08.16 time.

MIDDLEBURY ATHLETICS

Caroline Bartlett '19.

Calcagni noted the terrain was tough because of some wind and ice but, all in all, the team was glad to start the season off on such a high note.

"I don't think we could have asked for a better start to the season on the women's side," said Cacagni.

With 130 points in the giant slalom, the men's squad finished the day in sixth place. Riley Plant '18 was the first Middlebury man to finish. His two-run time of 2:03.62 placed him 16th.

Davon Cardamone '18 and Justin Alkier '21 were the second and third Panthers to cross the finish line, posting times of 2:03.77 and 2:05.97. While the men's side did not achieve their hoped-for results, the season is young.

Plant talked about how Sugarloaf poses challenges.

"[Sugarloaf is] one of the most difficult hills we compete on," said Plant. But the Panthers viewed the challenge as an opportunity to improve.

"During inspection and minimizing preventable mistakes during our race runs" is especially where the team can focus on getting sharper, said Plant. "We can achieve that by relaxing pre-race; this will be easier now that the first-race-jitters are out of the system. With the slalom race postponed to next weekend, we'll make sure to hammer the slalom training this week in preparation for the St. Mike's Carnival."

On the Nordic side, Cate Brams '18 backed up the high expectations for her this season. Brams crossed the line second in the women's 5K Classic with a time of 13:15.85, a career best, on the first day of the St. Michael's Carnival in Hinesburg, Vermont.

Katie Feldman '18 placed sixth for the second consecutive week after completing the course in 13:46.25. Sophia Hodge '20 had the best placement of her young Middlebury career, crossing 23rd in 14:20.84. Overall, the women's team registered 103 points to come in third.

Meanwhile, the men's side racked up 103 points — also good for third place.

Evan Weinman '18 paced the Panthers with a 24:58.03 in the 10K Classic, placing fifth individually. Two spots behind Weinman was Peter Wolter '21, with a time of 24:59.24. Adam Luban '18 and Sam Wood '19 placed 20th and 21st, with times of 25:52.07 and 25:53.41.

Day 2 opened with the women's 10K Freestyle, where Brams once again led the Panthers by crossing the finish line in 29:56.3 for seventh place. Annika Landis '20 was the other Middlebury athlete to place in the top-20, as she finished 19th by crossing the line at 30:34.1. The women's squad once again collectively captured the bronze, this time with 81 points.

"It was great to see us build on what we put together at Colby, and it gives us a lot of confidence in the work that we've put in all year," Brams said after last weekend's competition. "We were so excited about what the men's team put together — great to see a huge team win. On the women's side, we have a pretty young team that is still adjusting to college racing, and I'm incredibly proud of their confidence and drive this weekend. We're all excited and hungry for more."

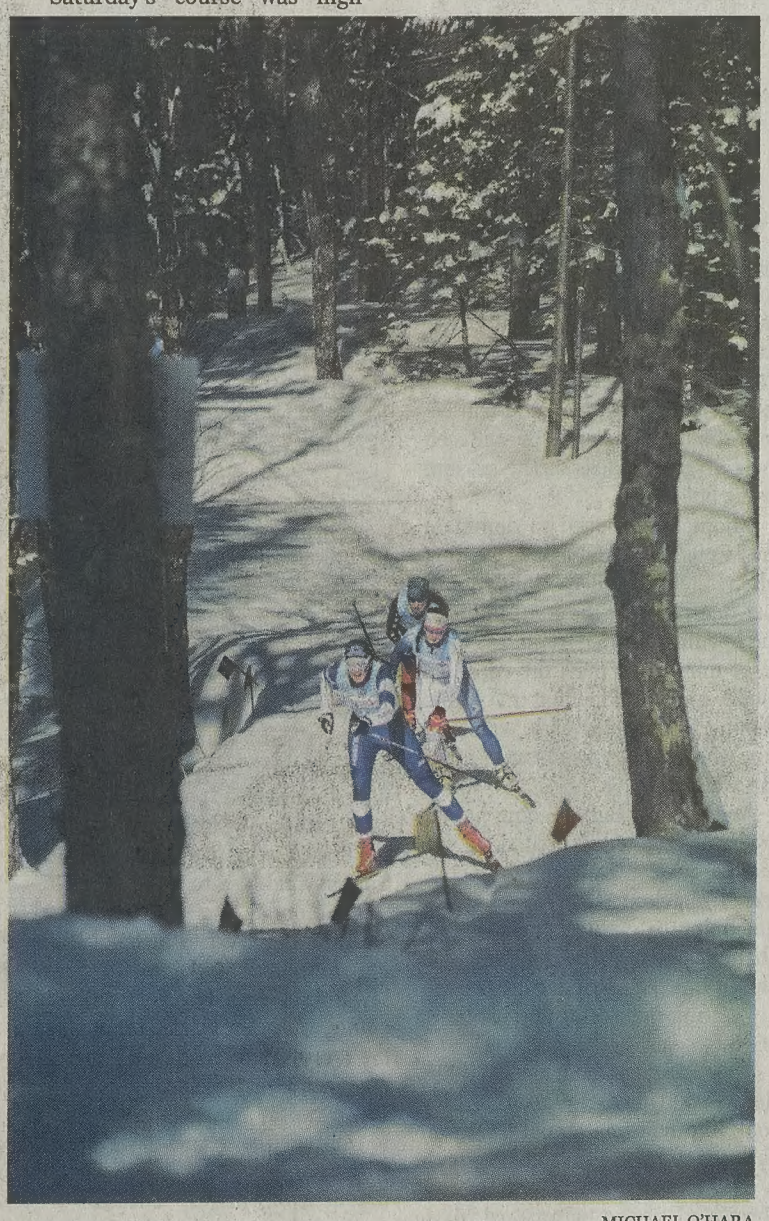
The men's squad also surged forward as they won the 15K Freestyle event with 123 points. This was their first on-day win since 2009.

This time Wolter led the pack, continuing his hot start from the previous day. He earned his best-ever finish with a second-place tally by crossing at 38:31.7.

Three other Panthers finished in the top-ten: Lewis Nottonson '19 (fifth, 38:47.9), Wood (sixth, 38:56.2) and Luban (ninth, 39:19.2). Nottonson and Wood also garnered their best finishes of their respective careers, while Luban tied his career-best finish.

"Saturday's course was highlighted by a long gradual downhill section on the front of the course and a gradual climb back up towards the stadium," Nottonson said, describing the layout of the course. "Sunday used a partially overlapped lower loop that extended another kilometer downhill from the previous day's course and had an additional switchback climb added onto the upper end of the course."

The Nordic squad will be back in action on Feb. 2nd at the Vermont Carnival in Stowe, Vermont, while the Alpine team is in action this weekend in Jeffersonville, Vermont, at Smuggler's Notch, where they will take part in the St. Michael's Carnival.



MICHAEL O'HARA

The nordic teams raced in their second competition of the season at the St. Michael's Carnival on Saturday and Sunday, Jan. 20 and 21.

Panther Teams of the Week:
Women's Alpine and Men's Nordic Skiing

MICHAEL O'HARA

Women's Alpine Skiing ETB
After Saturday's races at the Colby Carnival were canceled due to high winds, the women's Alpine ski team opened its season on a high note on Sunday by finishing in a tie for first at the Carnival with Dartmouth. Because there were no races on Saturday, the Alpine competition consisted of only the Giant Slalom. Caroline Bartlett '19 led the way for the Panthers with a second place finish. Jackie Atkins '20 and Lexi Calcagni '19 also raced into the top-11, finishing in sixth and eleventh, respectively. The first-place team finish was the team's first in the GS competition since the 2015 Middlebury Carnival.

Men's Nordic Skiing ETB
The men's Nordic team recorded its first on-day win since 2009 on Sunday at the St. Michael's Carnival. Peter Wolter '21 continued his great start to his Panther career with a career-best second place finish to lead Middlebury on Sunday, while Lewis Nottonson '19 and Sam Wood '19 finished fifth and sixth, respectively, to bolster Middlebury's finish at the top of the leaderboard.

Panther Player of the Week:
Jenna Marotta '19

EMMA STAPLETON

Jenna Marotta '19 was named Nescac Player of the Week in women's hockey last Monday, Jan. 22, and she is our Panther player of the week, too. The junior defender assisted on Middlebury's only goal in the Panthers' 1–0 victory last Friday against Bowdoin. The next day, Marotta scored her first goal of season and assisted on another goal.

Women's Basketball Records Road Victory at Williams

By IMRAN GANDA

The Women's basketball team managed to recover from their back-to-back losses against Bates and Tufts last week by beating Williams in Massachusetts on Jan. 20, 57–54. On Monday Jan. 22, when they hosted Smith in a non-conference bout, the Panthers suffered their first home loss of the season, losing 60–45.

Middlebury looked to dominate the Ephs last Saturday evening when they confined Williams to just one point at the 5:40 mark of the opening quarter. With less than three minutes to play, the Panthers found nine of the final 12 points coming from guard Kira Waldman '20, who scored three from beyond the arc.

With Middlebury leading 25–11, Williams responded by making the second quarter a more tightly contested matchup. After seven and a half minutes of buckets being exchanged by both teams, Williams closed out the second quarter with a 9–2 run, outscoring the Panthers 16–8.

The Panthers built on the half-dozen-point lead, 33–27, that they took into halftime straight away in the second half as they opened with a 6–0 run that saw a pair of free throws converted by forward Maya Davis '20. As the Ephs answered back with a 6–0 spurt of their own, the Panthers defense allowed them to tack on some additional points in the last two and a half minutes of play. Heading into the fourth quarter, the Panthers comfortably led 48–35.

The game seemed to be tucked away as the Panthers found a three from Sarah Kaufman '20 less than a minute into the final quarter. However, the remainder of the quarter was dominated by Williams as they went on a 14–4 run and only trailed 55–51 with 90 seconds on the clock. When Amanni Fernandez of Williams drilled a three with 20 seconds left, the Panthers' lead was down to just two points, 56–54. In the final four seconds, Williams was unable to find the bottom of the net from downtown, allowing the Panthers to narrowly escape with a victory.

Davis had a team high 12 points and game high eight rebounds while Waldman scored 11 off the bench for the Panthers, which included sinking three of the five shots she took from beyond the arc.

On Monday, the Panthers hosted Smith and got off to a shaky start. The first half of the first quarter saw Smith score seven unanswered points. As the clock approached the four minute mark, the Panthers managed to cut the lead down 7–6. However, the Panthers were unable to contain the swarming Pioneers who went on a 10–2 run to end the first quarter with a 17–8 lead.

Finding themselves down 22–10 in the second quarter, the Panthers went on an 8–2 run. Five of the eight were scored by guard Sabrina Weeks '18, who finished with a team high 13 points. With the deficit then down to four points, 24–20, Smith scored five of the half's final points to lead 33–24 heading into halftime. Both teams scored 16 in the second quarter.

Smith seemed to slow down when they came out for the third quarter thanks to some Middlebury halftime adjustments. The Panthers managed to hold Smith to just seven points as they ended the final the 90 seconds of the third with a 6–0 run. Behind threes from Weeks and Davis, the Panthers refused to go away and headed into the final quarter down 40–36.

The Panthers looked to even the score or take the lead when Davis converted a layup immediately into the final quarter. With the lead cut to two, the Pioneers chipped away at the Panthers, outscoring them 14–3 over the next six and a half minutes. With less than three minutes left, Middlebury trailed 54–41. Down 13, the Panthers did not have enough time to get back into it, and fell at home for the first time this season.

A short stint of quick turnarounds this past week-plus has tested the Panthers' endurance. After suffering their first home loss, they still boast an impressive 13–5 overall record while being 3–2 in conference play.

The Panthers return to action in Pepin for a game in Nescac play as they will host Trinity this Sunday, Jan. 28, at 2 p.m.

WOMEN'S SQUASH MAINTAINS STONG POSITION

By EMILY BIAN

This past weekend was a busy one for the 15th-ranked Middlebury women's squash team as they defeated Franklin and Marshall on Saturday with a score of 6–3, but got swept 9–0 against Cornell on Sunday.

Starting off the weekend strong against the 18th-ranked Franklin and Marshall, the Panthers grabbed an early 2–0 advantage with a win at No. 9 from Natasha Lowitt '20 over Katie Anderson (11–1, 11–2, 11–6) and Virginia Schaus '21 against Melissa Epstein at No. (11–0, 11–2, 11–6).

However, the Diplomats did not go down easily, as they made the score 2–1 with a victory at No. 3. The Panthers then continued to secure the team victory with four-consecutive triumphs.

Mira Chugh '20 eased past Liana Zranchev at No. 8 (11–5, 11–3, 11–4), Natalie Madden '20 defeated Katherine Galambos in the fifth spot (11–6, 12–10, 11–2), and Lucy Bostwick '18, after dropping a tight first game, clinched the match with a 11–13, 11–4, 11–6, 11–3 win against Lauren Johnston in the No. 2 spot.

Emily Beinkampen '21 continued the winning streak and gave Middlebury a 6–1 lead, cruising past Grace Smith at No. 7 (11–4, 11–0 and 11–2).

The Diplomats won the last two matches with a four game in the top spot on and a heartbreaker for the Panthers at the No. 4 for the final score of 6–3.

In their final home game of the season, the Middlebury women's squash dropped a 9–0 game to eighth-ranked Cornell. In the home contest against the Big Red, all victories were three game victories except against Madden and Lowitt. Each of them managed to claim a game before defeat.

Bostwick, captain of the team, unnerved by the loss against Cornell, stayed optimistic.

"This is the last time I will be on a competitive sports team, playing at this high of a level, and having my teammates feel like family," said Bostwick. "There are a lot of ups and downs and successes and challenges that come with being an athlete on a team like this, but I hope to take them all in-stride, continue to learn from them, and enjoy every aspect of what this final season brings. I love to play the game and I love love love my teammates, so my goal is to focus on those feelings and hopefully success will come as a result."

MIDDLEBURY ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS

MIDDLEBURY ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS

Natalie Madden '21 (above) and Emily Beinkampen '21 (below) are a pair of Panthers first-years who have added depth and lead the team in victories with seven apiece (along with Mira Chugh '20). In their rookie campains, Madden and Beinkampen have contributed mostly in the middle and lower half of the ladder.

The 15th-ranked Panthers return to the court tomorrow afternoon at 4:30 p.m. when they play Wellesley at MIT beginning at 4:30 p.m.

CSA Women's Squash Rankings Nos. 10–16

10. Dartmouth
11. Brown
12. George Washington
13. Virginia
14. Williams
15. **MIDDLEBURY**
16. Amherst

QUICK NOTES FROM AROUND THE NESCAC

Middlebury's Jenna Marotta '19 was named Nescac women's hockey player of the week for her play in the Panthers' doubleheader against Bowdoin this weekend.

Bowdoin's David Reynolds earned Nescac men's basketball player of the week by scoring a career-high 29 points in Bowdoin's win over Maine rival Colby.

Previously undefeated Hamilton's men's basketball fell to Amherst 75 –49 on Saturday, Jan. 20. This weekend, Middlebury moved into first place in the standings.

Hope Matthews '18, a player on the women's squash and golf teams, was featured on Nescac.com on Friday, Jan. 19. Right now, Matthews, a computer science major, is working with a classmate to develop a mobile app that directs students to the correct student resource when they need help.

Kingsley Bowen of Tufts earned Nescac men's swimmer of the week by winning five individual races in two meets.

The Hamilton and Middlebury women's hockey teams both won twice last weekend, setting up a showdown between the top two teams in the Nescac this weekend at Hamilton on Friday and Saturday, Jan. 26 and 27.

Bowdoin's and Amherst's women's basketball teams stayed undefeated last weekend, and meet on Saturday, Jan. 27 at Amherst.

No. 14 Wesleyan men's basketball lost to Purchase 71 –68 on Monday, Jan. 22, on a buzzer-beater that was No. 1 on SportCenter's Top-10 plays of the night.

GREAT 8 EIGHT

RANKING **TEAM**
Seb's Suggestions

1 Women's Hockey
Not only did Middlebury outscore the Polar Bears 4-0 over tweo games, Mandigo secured his 550th career win in 30 years of coaching.

2 Men's Basketball
A well-earned win against Williams, who knocked the Panthers out of the 2017 Final Four round.

3 Middlebury Ski Squad
The Alpine Ski team tied for first place led by Caroline Barlett '19 and the Nordic squad placed third thanks to Peter Wolter '21

4 Women's Basketball
The squad traveled to Williams to beat the Purple Eph's 57-54 on their home court. Maya Davis '19 finished with an impressive 12 points and 8 boards.

5 Track and Field
The Men's Team finished third, while the Women's team took fourth, in the Winterfell Classic. Both teams boasted impressive numbers leading up to the Middlebury invitational.

6 Men and Women's Squash
Both mens and women's faced Cornell, dropping their matches 6-3 and 9-0, respectively. We know they can bounce back this weekend.

7 Men's Hockey
The Men's Team suffered a tough 2-1 loss to Bowdoin away. They hope to bounce back against

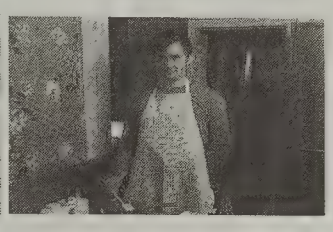
8 The Weather
To be honest, it needs to decide whether it wants to be cold, wet or snowy. I can't keep up anymore.

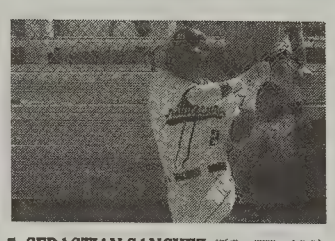
EDITORS' PICKS

1. WILL CASE (136–92, .596)

2. ANDREW RIGAS (121–85, .587)

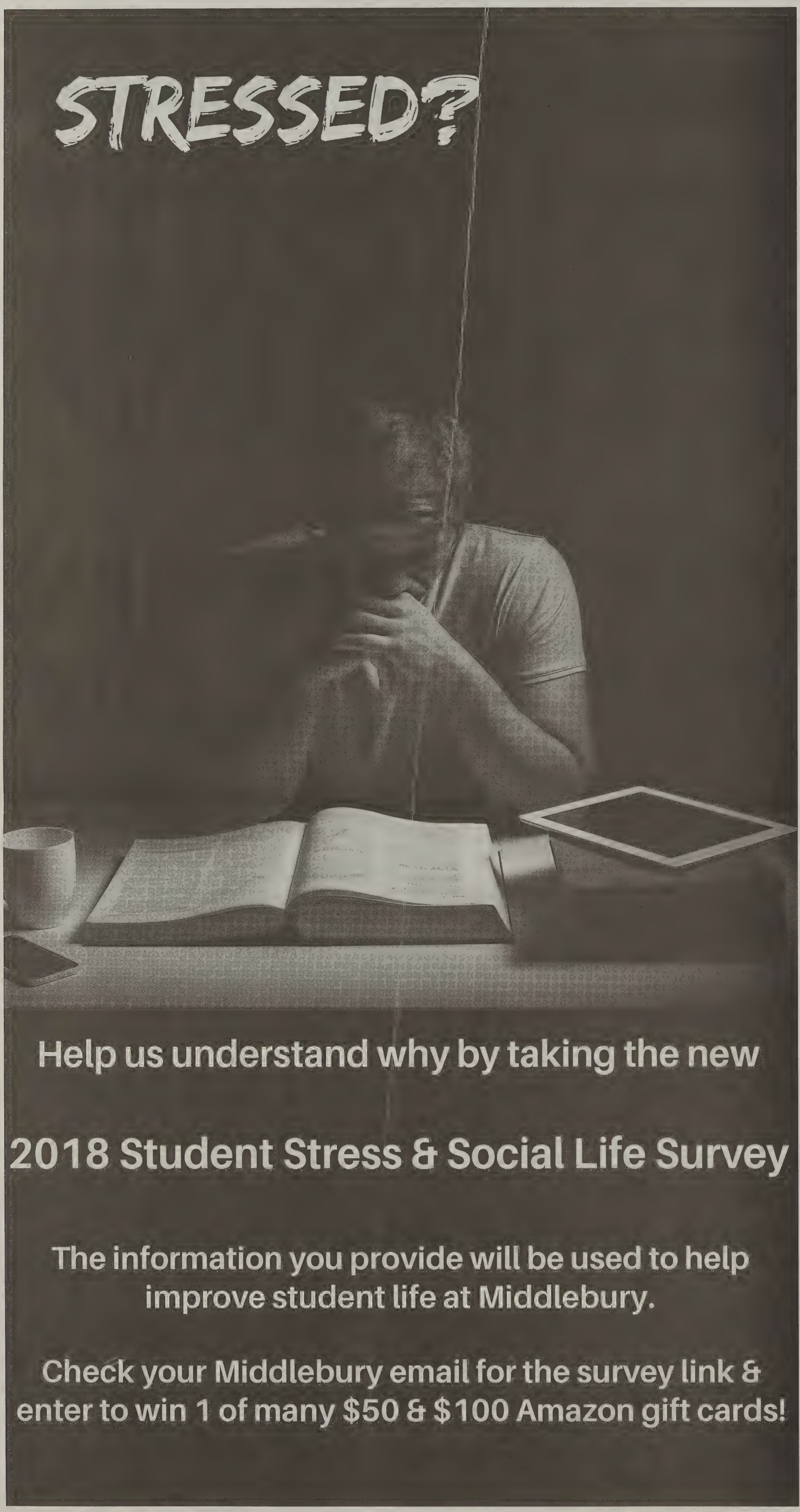
3. ETHAN BRADY (24–22, .522)

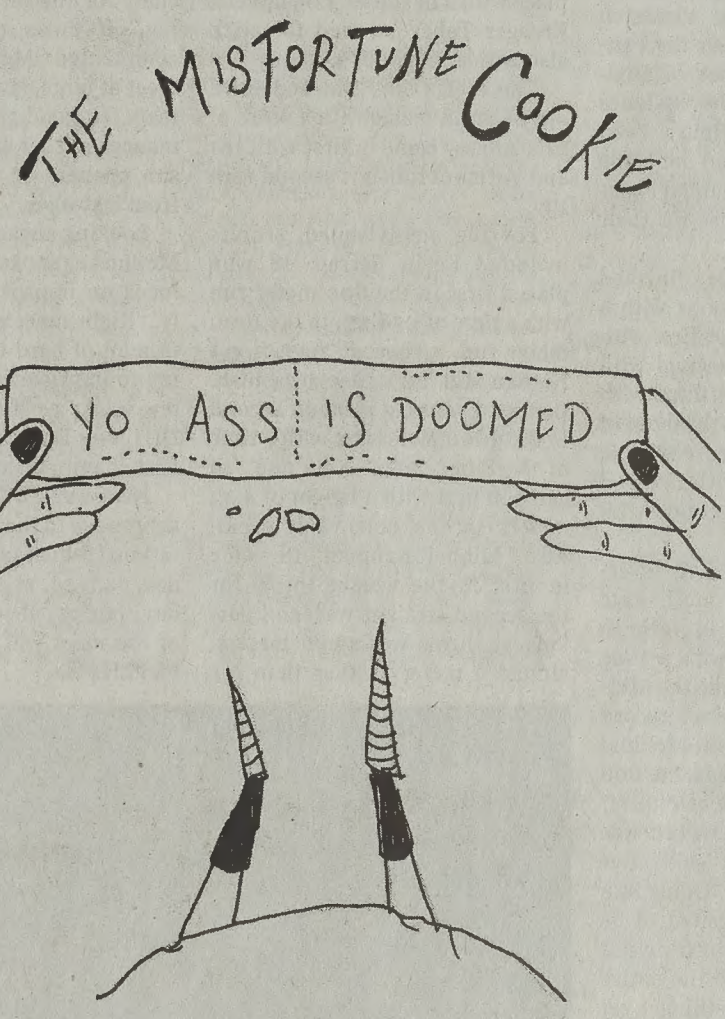

4. ROB ERICKSON (56–63, .471)


5. SEBASTIAN SANCHEZ (52–77 .403)

SUPER BOWL PROP BETS

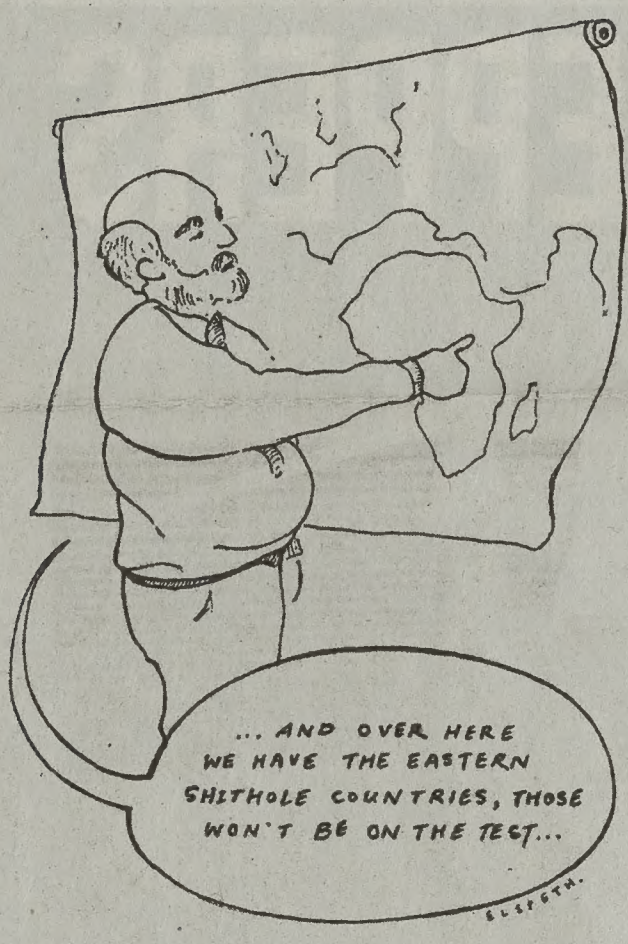
Over/Under Eagles' sacks: 3	UNDER McDaniels will draw up too many quick passes, and the Patriots o-line comes through big time.	OVER The Birds are gonna get after Tom.	OVER Eagles will fly.	OVER Mostly because that's what it'll take to make this game close.	UNDER.
Which team has more rushing yards?	EAGLES The Patriots were at the bottom of the league in run defense, and you have to figure they'll go with short quick throws against Philly's front 7.	EAGLES Both teams have a solid stable of backs, but the Eagles are going to want to keep the ball as long as possible by running the ball.	EAGLES It's the way it's bound to be.	EAGLES Ajayi has his first real coming out party.	EAGLES. Something about the underdog mentality is going to benefit the Eagles.
Will LaGarrette Blount score a touchdown against his former team?	YES He's scored in both of their playoff games so far. Once again, you figure they'll give it to him in scoring situations.	NO But plenty of other Eagles will score.	YES Probabilistically, it could happen.	NO That would make too much sense, so no.	FOR SURE. Nothing feels better than scoring against the guys that let you go.
Will Danny Amendola score a touchdown?	NO He's scored in each of their 2 previous Super Bowls. Look for the Eagles to try to shut him down.	NO He has scored two touchdowns in two playoff games, but he also had only two in the entire regular season.	YES He'll be a go-to target for Brady, at least in the clutch.	HECK YEAH Exactly because Will says he won't.	YES. You saw that catch? C'mon. Next question.
Over/Under touchdowns for Nick Foles: 2	PUSH Foles is good for 2 pass TDs. Don't think he'll get one rushing, but watch for the old read-option.	OVER Did you see what Nicky did to the Vikings last week? There defense is better than the Patriots'.	OVER It's officials..	OVER	OVER. Foles showed us what he could do in the NFC. Let's hope he brings it to the big stage.
Over/Under: 313 passing yards for Tom Brady	YES Why? It seems hard to go with the under. In three of his seven Super Bowls he's gone over 313... make it four of eight.	UNDER Everyone else picked over so far, and I think there is a decent chance he doesn't, so there we go.	OVER As much as I hate to say it, my dad tends to throw this far.	MOST DEFINITELY	OVER. I hate that I am saying this (as a Giants fan), but he probably will. (Never against Peyton Manning though).
Over/Under: 1.5 Tom Brady turnovers forced by Eagles' defense.	UNDER The key here is "Tom Brady turnovers," not Patriots turnovers. Maybe he'll throw a pick or they'll work a strip-sack in there.	OVER After this one, people are going to be calling him Turnover Tommy.	OVER Red rover red rover, turn Tom over.	UNDER Fumbles only, and Tom Brady won't have more than one of those.	OVER. The Eagles' defense is looking to make a statement and there is no better place to do it.
Which team will score more in the fourth quarter?	PATRIOTS If they're going to win (like I think they unfortunately will, though not in blowout fashion) they're going to score more in the fourth	EAGLES This one is going to be a battle, and the Eagles are going to turn on the gas in the fourth quarter.	PATRIOTS It's the way it tends to go these days.	EAGLES They will during their comeback push.	PATRIOTS. Everbody know that Tom Brady is a fourth quarter man.
Over/Under: Patriots lead by 5 at halftime	UNDER In all of their Super Bowls together, only in that first one against St. Louis did Brady/ Belichick go into it with a lead of more than four.	UNDER It's going to be a tight one at half, just in time for Brady to deflate some footballs.	UNDER @Andrew: got'em.	UNDER They pull away a bit in the third quarter though.	UNDER. Foles will give Brady a run for his money
How many footballs will Tom Brady deflate?	THREE At least three knowingly, the staff will cover the others.	ZERO Well actually probably a lot more than that, but the Patriots cheat so often they are probably getting pretty good at covering it up.	SEVEN One for each of the dwarves he has in his vegetable garden.	12? However many he can.	MORE THAN 2 I had to LOL at this one. It will probably be cold in MN, so definitely more than two.
Which team will have more penalty yards?	EAGLES Jim Schwartz is the D coordinator in Philly and has down a great job. But his teams have been undisciplined in past important games...and the conspiracy of the league behind the Patriots is REAL!!!!!	EAGLES Next question.	EAGLES Edp445 will go off.	EAGLES Like the conspiracy theory	EAGLES. It is has been a while since they've been under superbowl pressure.
Over/Under: First Half 24 points	UNDER Only once have the Patriots played a Super Bowl where the combined halftime score was over 24 (in 2015 vs. Seattle).	OVER Nicky Foles baby.	OVER Nicky Foles' baby.	OVER High-scoring affair all the way	OVER. These two power offenses will have an entertaining first half.
Over/Under: 47	OVER Brady and the Patriots score two touchdowns and a field goal in the fourth to push it over.	OVER Nicky Foles baby.	OVER Nicky Foles, baby?	OVER See above	UNDER. The defenses will pick up after the half and minimze scores to make it interesting.
Patriots vs. Eagles (ATS)	EAGLES The Patriots always make the Super Bowl close.	EAGLES See next pick	EAGLES Because I want to.	EAGLES	PATRIOTS Still don't understand this whole +/- thing...
Patriots vs. Eagles (straight-up)	PATRIOTS And the Patriots usually come out on top.	EAGLES The Eagles are going to keep surprising everyone, and the Patriots are going to lose.	PATRIOTS This kills me.	PATRIOTS Because as much as I want the Eagles to win, the best they'll do is cover.	EAGLES. If I wanted to improve by batting avaerage, I'd take the Pats. But the underdogs are calling


STRESSED?
Help us understand why by taking the new
2018 Student Stress & Social Life Survey
The information you provide will be used to help improve student life at Middlebury.
Check your Middlebury email for the survey link & enter to win 1 of many $50 & $100 Amazon gift cards!



ALEXIS CLAY

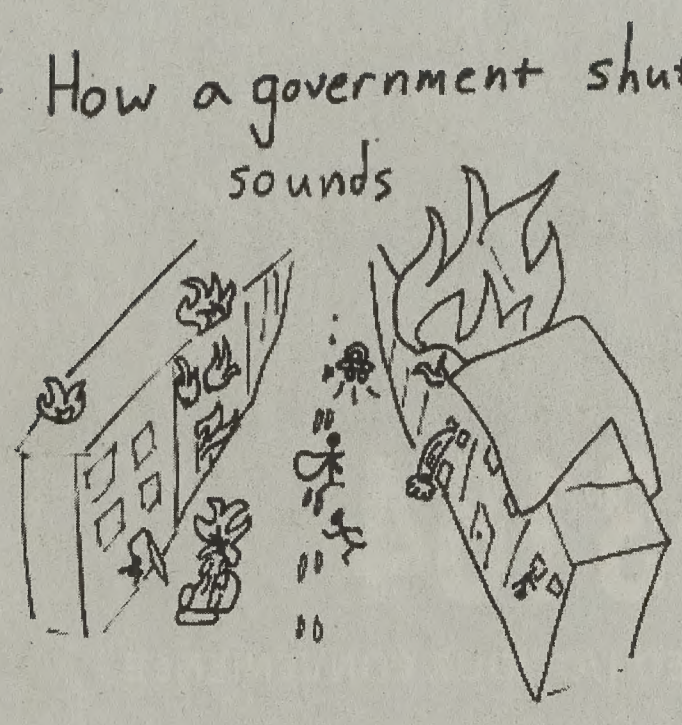
KAITLYND COLLINS

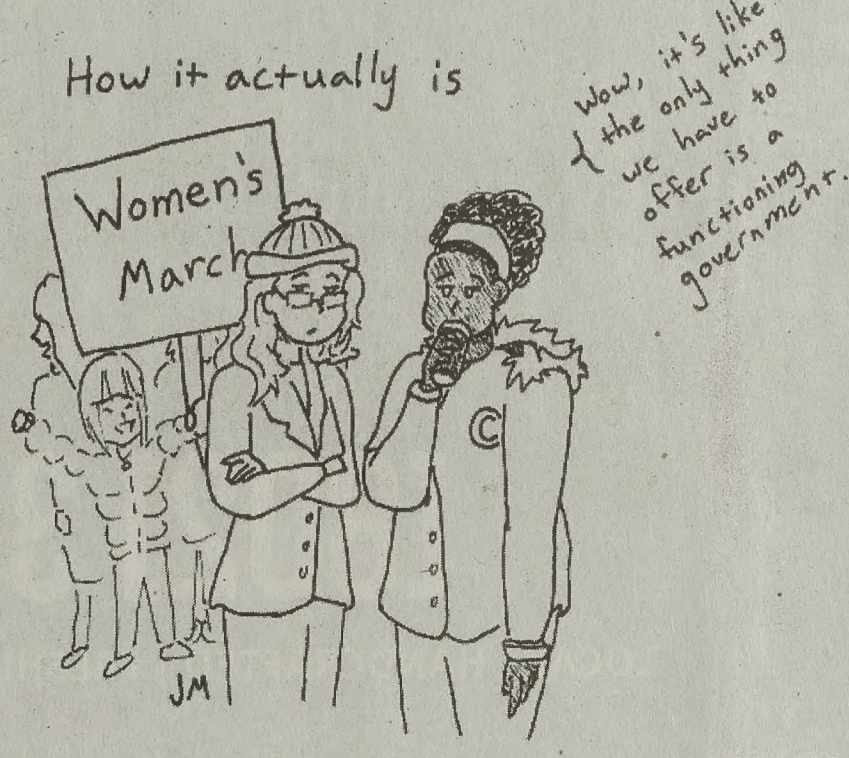


ELLIE EBERLEE

THE APPLE-INDUCED PTSD SUPPORT GROUP

MILLIE VON PLATEN





JENNY MOSS

McCluskey Sets School Record in 200 Meter

By JORDAN HOWELL

The Middlebury track and field team faced a hard fought battle in the recent Middlebury Winterfell on Saturday, Jan. 20, as the Panthers hosted a number of Division I teams on the New Balance Track in Virtue Field House. Even though the Panthers did not come out on top, they still gained experience that they can use for their next meets.

The women's side finished fourth out of seven teams with a score of 86. Albany got first with 193, McGill came in second with 115, and Vermont was third with 102. The men finished third out of seven teams with a score of 136. Albany came in first with 181, and Vermont finished second with 137.

The women's team had several key scorers in this meet. Kate McCluskey '18 came in fifth in the 200 meter dash with a time of 26.17. This time broke the Middlebury women's previous record for the 200 meter dash. McCluskey also captured first in the 600 meter dash with a time of 1:35.12.

"Breaking the 200 record was awesome," McCluskey said after her races on Saturday. "Going into it I was really just excited to be able to open up and push myself to go as fast as I could the entire time, which isn't something I get to do in events like the 600. I've felt really strong in training and this was a great way to see how my speed has been coming together."

The team also did well in the 3000 meter run. Abigail Nadler '19 placed first with a time of 10:09.30. A time of 10:19.30 netted Talia Ruxin '20 third place, and Kate MacCary '19 got sixth place with a time of 10:25.81.

Beth Neal '20 placed sixth in the high jump with a height of 1.38 meters. In the pole vault event, Molly Colwell '20 and Annalise Arant '21 tied for fourth place with a height of 3.05 meters. Kreager Taber '19 tied for sixth also with a height of 3.05 m.

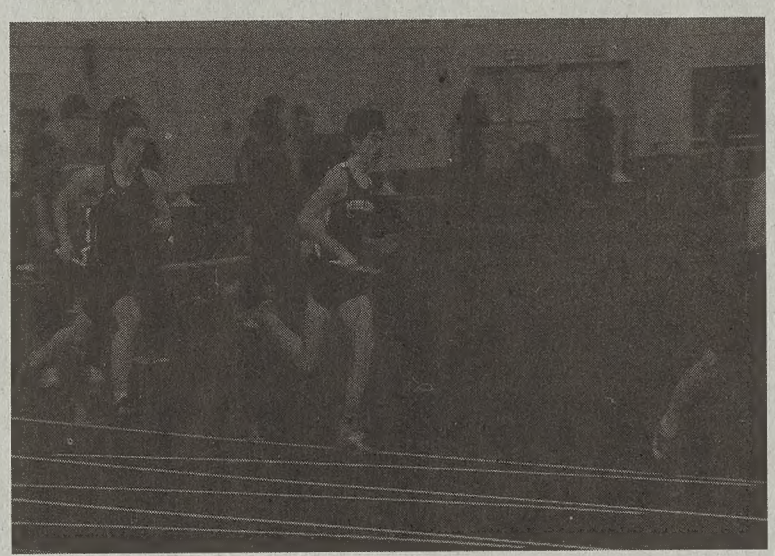
The men's side finished third out of seven teams with a score of 136. Albany came in first with 181 and Vermont finished second with 137.

For the men's squad, scorers included Kevin Serrao '18 who placed first in the 800 meter run with a time of 1:58.03. In the 1000 meter run, a time of 2:30.01 got Nathan Hill '20 first-place finish. Connor Evans '19 came in second in the 3000 meter run with a time of 8:48.06. John Natalone '19 came in first with a height of 4.42 meters in the pole vault event. Also, Minhaj Rahman '18 came in first in the weight throw for the second straight weekend. His longest throw was 15.96 meters, almost a meter further than his longest throw last weekend at the Middlebury Winter Classic.

"This was the first meet of the season for a lot of people, especially for the distance team coming off cross country season," commented McCluskey on the meet at large. "I think most of the team felt good about their performances, either having great season openers or making progress from last week."

Looking ahead to future meets, McCluskey spoke about the team's focus on improving incrementally, "Right now, we're still putting in a lot of hard training, just trying to improve at each meet. In a few weeks we'll start focusing on DIII New England's, which is our first championship meet indoors."

Next week will be packed with action due to the Middlebury Invitational which takes place on Friday, Jan. 26, at 2 p.m. and Saturday, Jan. 27, at 10 a.m. Both parts of the meet will be at the Virtue Field House.



EMMA STAPLETON

The track & field team hosted Middlebury Winterfell on the New Balance Track in Virtue Field House.

WOMEN'S HOCKEY USCHO.com POLL

AS OF JAN. 22

RK	SCHOOL	RECORD	PREV.
1	PLATSBURGH	15–2–0	1
2	NORWICH	14–1–2	3
3	ELMIRA	13–2–1	2
4	GUSTAVUS ADOLPHUS	12–2–3	5
5	**MIDDLEBURY**	**10–3–1**	**T6**
6	ADRIAN	11–5–1	4
7	WISC.-RIVER FALLS	13–4–2	T–6
8	ST. THOMAS	10–3–4	8
9	CONN. COLL.	11–3–3	9
10	HAMLINE	13–2–2	NR

MEN'S BASKETBALL D3Hoops.com POLL

AS OF JAN. 22

RK	SCHOOL	RECORD	PREV.
1	WHITMAN	17–0	1
2	WASHU	14–2	3
3	WITTENBERG	17–0	5
4	WHITWORTH	15–2	7
5	AUGUSTANA	14–3	8
6	ST. JOHN'S	14–1	12
7	YORK	16–1	4
8	WISC.-WHITEWATER	14–3	2
9	LYCOMING	17–1	10
10	**MIDDLEBURY**	**14–3**	**16**
11	SWARTHMORE	15–2	15
12	MIT	15–2	9
13	EMORY	14–2	17
14	WESLEYAN	13–3	19
15	WILLIAMS	13–4	11
16	HAMILTON	15–1	14
17	EASTERN CONN.	15–2	22
18	ILL. WESLEYAN	14–3	24
19	WISC.–OSHKOSH	13–4	6
20	WISC.–RIVER FALLS	12–4	13
21	EMORY AND HENRY	16–1	NR
22	ROCHESTER	13–3	25
23	JOHN CARROLL	14–3	20
24	BALDWIN WALLACE	14–3	NR
25	MARIETTA	13–4	18

Men's Hockey Splits Away Weekend

By HEATHER BOEHM

The men's hockey team traveled to Maine seeking revenge over its Nescac rivals this past weekend. The Panthers started the weekend off strong, closing out a tight matchup over Colby 3–2 on Friday, Jan. 19. But, the men fell the following day to Bowdoin, for the second time this season, 2–1.

To start the weekend, the Panthers traveled to Waterville, Maine for a rematch against the Mules, who had beaten Middlebury 9–1 in the Panthers' season opener.

The Colby men skated out strong, flashing an aggressive offense and won the race to light up the scoreboard first. Colby put a rebound past Stephen Klein '18 in the first eight minutes, after Justin Grillo's first shot was deflected. But the Panthers did not stand down. After seven more minutes of play, Michael Fahie '21 earned his third goal of the year, bring the game to a tie as the teams entered the second period.

The Panthers got to work right away in the second period. Kamil Tkaczuk '19 capitalized on a rebounded off a shot by Fahie, and scored to make it a 2–1 game. Middlebury's defense held off the Mules for the rest of the period, protecting their lead until the third period.

Colby's response came from Spencer Hewson, who took advantage of a power play opportunity to tie the game at 2. Both teams pressed their offense to try to find the decisive goal. Then, with less than two minutes to go, Frank Cosolito '20 scored the game-winner on a shot from the right dot with 1:52 remaining in the contest, securing vengeance for the Panthers in the form of a 3–2 victory.

"We came to Colby looking for a little payback, which really motivated us going into the game," said Ethan Cohen '19 after the game. "Beyond that, we made sure to execute our game plan and to capitalize on our opportunities. Last time we played them we failed to do that. That change, and coming out of the gate a lot faster this time were ultimately the difference."

Klein between the posts was once again a major key to victory for Middlebury. The Mules almost doubled the Panther's shots on goal, tallying 41 attempts to Middlebury's 22, but Klein's impressive performance earned the team the win.

The Panthers trekked to Bowdoin on Saturday, Jan. 20, seeking to avenge their early season loss to the Polar Bears, but were ultimately unsuccessful.

In the first stanza, both teams protected their nets and they entered the middle stanza tied 0–0. Bowdoin's Cody Todesco broke the silence, as he swiped a shot past Klein on a Polar Bear powerplay. The Polar Bears increased their lead just a few minutes later as Todesco set up Ronnie Lestan, making it easy for him to launch a shot into the back of the net.

The Panthers did not back down as they trailed Bowdoin by two tallies. Owen Powers '20 found the back of the net when he scored a shorthanded goal with the help of Mitchell Allen '20. Powers' goal came with a little over 12 minutes remaining in the third period.

Middlebury was unable to break past the Polar Bear offense once more, as Bowdoin closed out the battle maintaining their 2–1 lead.

Middlebury will return to Kenyon Arena on Friday, Jan. 26, to host Connecticut College and on Saturday, Jan. 27, they will skate against Tufts for the second time this season.

In last place right now, the Panthers need to climb two spots in the Nescac standings if they want to qualify for the conference playoffs. With eight Nescac games left, the Panthers have plenty of time to make up the ground, and their game against Tufts, the team ahead of the in the standings, will be big for that reason.

Swimming Leaves Union in Dust

By LAUREN BOYD

Swimming and diving conquered Union in the natatorium last Saturday — the women's side by a score of 205–74 and the men's side 198–75. Each side's meet had 15 events and both won 12 of the 15.

Frances VanderMeer '20 continued her impressive win streak with another two victories in the pool. She flew past her competition in the 100 butterfly (58.83) and 50 freestyle (24.64). The fierce competitor also chipped in for the 200 free relay, along with Audrey Kelly '21, Erin Kelly '21 and Stephanie Andrews '18, winning the competition with a time of 1:41.09. The relay's nearest competitor came in 7.48 seconds behind the Panther's top squad.

Alongside VanderMeer, Elissa DeNunzio '18 again had success on the boards, contributing two winning efforts with victories in both the 1-(263.93) and 3-meter (274.95) events.

Other first-place finishes included Sarah McEachern '21 in the 100 backstroke (1:02.15) and 500 freestyle (5:19.89), Erin Kelly in the 100 breaststroke (1:10.16), Kristin Karpowicz '19 in the 200 free (1:59.93), Stephanie Andrews '18 in the 100 free (55.50) and Jessica Lipton '20 in the 200 fly (2:16.11).

The men's side saw the same success against Union.

Morgan Matsuda '19 and Stefan Pla '18 each won two individual events. Matsuda touched the wall in the 400 individual medley in 4:21.26 as well as the 200 freestyle in 1:47.80. Pla claimed first in the 200 breaststroke (2:14.23) and 100 breaststroke (1:00.55). Pla also contributed a leg in the victorious 400 medley relay (3:36.83), consisting of Pla, Brendan Leech '19, Keegan Pando '21 and Nick Handali '20.

Along with the 400 medley relay, the 200 free relay team of Cory Jalbert '21, Leech '19, Keegan Pando '21 and Connor McCormick '18, closed out the day for the Panthers on a high note, finishing first with a time of 1:29.55.

Other individual victories were attained in the lanes and on the boards. Mike Chirico '20 won the 3-meter diving event with 358.43 points. Five other Panthers claimed gold in their respective swimming events: Kevin Santoro '21 in the 200 backstroke (1:59.52), Leech in the 50 free (22.43), Jalbert in the 100 free (49.61), Handali in the 100 butterfly (53.78) and Andrew Buchser '18 in the 500 free (4:58.78).

"My main goals moving forward are to stay healthy and in good condition," Buchser said. "I started this season unable to swim with a back injury, but with help from sports medicine I've managed the pain. The bulk of our training is done, so now we just have to stay in shape until we start taper."

The Panthers head to Williamstown on Saturday looking to improve their conference record, but Buchser points out Middlebury's results so far may be misleading.

"Teams take opportunities throughout the season to rest for meets," Buchser said. "We train through all of our meets to maximize our potential by the time Nescacs come around. It's hard to know how I'm really doing until I'm rested in February. I'm ahead of where I've been at this time in past seasons, so it should all be good news moving forward."

Men's Squash Values Upcoming Opportunity Vs. UVA

By WILL CASE

Last weekend, the No. 19 Middlebury men's squash team had an opportunity. Facing No. 16 Franklin and Marshall on Saturday and then No. 15 Cornell on Sunday at their home courts, the Panthers had a shot to boost their resume and chances of cracking the College Squash Association's top-16 teams by the time nationals roll around next month. Unfortunately, the Panthers came up short, losing 5–4 to Franklin and Marshall and 6–3 to Cornell.

At the beginning of the season the Panthers made it their goal to earn a spot in the top 16, which would qualify them to compete in the second bracket for the Hoehn Cup at nationals next month. With losses to two teams occupying the very spots the Panthers had set their sights on, Middlebury will face an uphill battle to achieving their goal.

"Our goal of finishing in the top-16 is now difficult, but not impossible," said team captain Ryan Swope '18 after this weekend's matches.

Another seasoned veteran, Will Kurth '18 echoed the sentiments of Swope that the top 16 could still be within reach.

"Our goal is still the top-16," said Kurth when asked if the Panthers had to redirect their aspirations. "We can compete at the level of those teams [in the top-16] and are more than eager for the opportunity to do so. We have been battling injuries and adjusting our line up accordingly."

Injuries continue to be a problem for the Panthers. Jacob Ellen '20 is still not at 100 percent and Nick Bermingham '20 missed his seventh and eighth straight matches last weekend due to a nagging injury.

"In terms of injuries, Jacob [Ellen] has been playing through his soreness in his knee and is doing well," said Swope. "Alex Merrill '21 just returned from a long ankle injury, and Nick Bermingham will hopefully return this week having successfully rehabbed his injury for weeks now."

Heading into play on Saturday, the top of the Panthers' ladder had played as strong as it has for any Middlebury squad in recent memory. Typically the middle and bottom third of the ladder are strong suits for the Panthers, but this season their quintet of sophomores, Will Cembalest '20, Ellen, Jack Kagan '20 and Bermingham, along with Henry Pearson '18, have played well and allowed the Panthers to compete at the top.

However, against tough competition last weekend, the Panthers only won one match in the top five slots of the ladder, which came on Sunday when Kagan jumped out to a 2–0 sets lead in the No. 3 slot against Cornell senior Jordan Brail, whose comeback attempt Kagan managed to stave off for a five sets victory.

Despite the results, the Panthers made things difficult for the Diplomats and Big Red.

"I thought everyone was pushed to play their best," said Kurth. "The result was disappointing, but we really made these higher ranked teams 'beat us' rather than 'roll over' for the them. I thought we showed our true colors. We fought hard this weekend."

These were some of the positives that the Panthers can take with them as they head into this weekend's pivotal matches in Cambridge, Massachusetts, which features a date with 14th-ranked Virginia on Saturday.

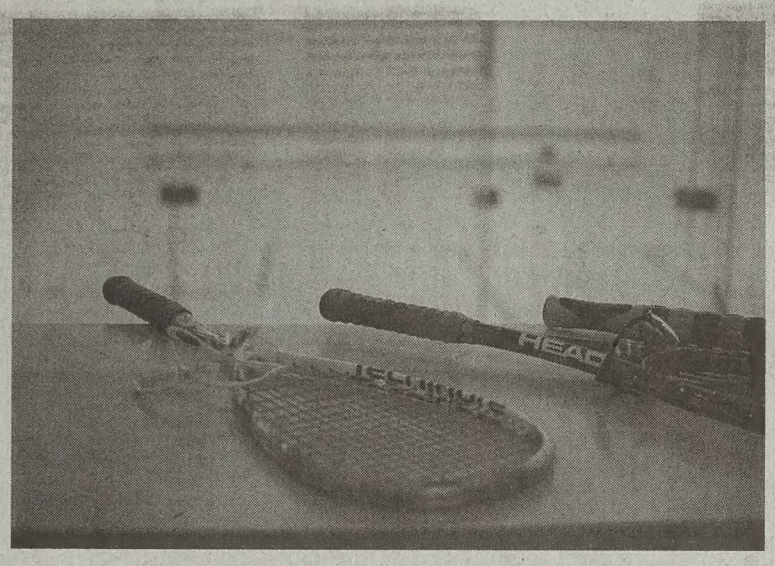
A win over the Cavaliers would go a long way to helping the Panthers boost their resume.

"With a good opportunity against a beatable No. 14 UVA," said Swope, "the top-16 finish is still attainable."

In addition to the opportunity on Saturday against Virginia, the Panthers will also get a crack at No. 9 Drexel, No. 11 George Washington and No. 13 Navy next month before Nescacs.

Kurth believes that the Panthers can use the Nescacs as an opportunity to overcome bumps in the road they faced earlier in the season.

"I hope our results at Nescacs nullify our early results against, for example, Williams," he said, referencing a match the Panthers dropped in Williamstown 6–3 on Jan. 6. "We are looking forward to University of Virginia, the Naval Academy, Drexel, George Washington University. We will continue to train hard and prepare for these great opportunities."



MICHAEL O'HARA

A classic Michael O'Hara '17 picture for the sports section, taken two years ago this past weekend during the 2015–16 season during the squash teams' senior day. That was the last year in which the men's side finished in the top-16. With three more matches against teams ranked higher in the CSA poll, the Panthers have a chance to get back competing with the country's best at nationals.

MICHAEL BORENSTEIN

Men's squash captain Ryan Swope '18 and the rest of his team look to get their season back on track this weekend in Cambridge, Massachusetts, when they play 14th-ranked UVA at Harvard.

MIDDLEBURY ATHLETICS COMMUNICATIONS

Alex Merrill '21, went 1–1 in his matches last weekend as he returned to action after missing some time due to injury. He is just one of the Panthers who can add some firepower to the ladder down stretch run.

CSA's Men's Squash Rankings Nos. 10–25 (Panthers' result when played)

10. Dartmouth (L, 0–9)

11. George Washington

12. Western Ontario

13. Navy (Feb. 9, Annapolis, MD)

14. Virginia (Sat., Cambridge, MA)

15. Cornell (L, 3–6)

16. Franklin and Marshall (L, 4–5)

"B" Bracket

"C" Bracket

17. Dickinson

18. Bates (W, 5–4)

19. **MIDDLEBURY**

20. Brown

21. Williams (L, 3–6)

22. MIT (tomorrow, Cambridge, MA)

23. Colby (W, 7–2)

24. Amherst (W, 9–0)

25. Hobart

SCOREBOARD

AS OF JAN. 22

WOMEN'S HOCKEY

FRIDAY
Middlebury at Hamilton, 7 p.m.
SATURDAY
Middlebury at Hamilton , 3 p.m.

NESCAC

School	Record Conf.	Overall
CONN. COLLEGE	7–1–2	11–3–3
HAMILTON	7–1–0	10–4–1
MIDDLEBURY	6–1–1	10–3–1
AMHERST	5–3–2	9–5–2
WILLIAMS	3–3–4	9–4–4
COLBY	1–5–4	4–7–4
WESLEYAN	1–3–4	5–7–4
BOWDOIN	1–6–1	7–6–1
TRINITY	0–8–0	4–11–0

MEN'S HOCKEY

FRIDAY
Conn. College at Middlebury, 7 p.m.
SATURDAY
Tufts at Middlebury, 4 p.m.

NESCAC

School	Record Conf.	Overall
TRINITY	8–1–1	11–3–2
COLBY	7–5–0	8–8–0
WILLIAMS	6–4–0	10–6–0
CONN. COLLEGE	6–4–0	7–9–0
WESLEYAN	5–3–2	9–4–3
AMHERST	4–3–3	6–6–3
HAMILTON	4–5–1	10–5–1
BOWDOIN	4–8–0	6–11–0
TUFTS	2–7–1	3–11–2
MIDDLEBURY	2–8–0	4–12–0

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

SUNDAY
Trinity at Middlebury, 2 p.m.
TUESDAY
Middlebury at Keene St., 5:30 p.m.

NESCAC

School	Record Conf.	Overall
AMHERST	4–0	18–0
BOWDOIN	4–0	18–0
TUFTS	4–1	16–2
MIDDLEBURY	3–2	13–4
CONN. COLLEGE	2–3	11–5
WESLEYAN	2–3	11–5
WILLIAMS	2–3	10–8
COLBY	1–3	7–8
HAMILTON	1–3	12–5
TRINITY	1–3	13–5
BATES	1–4	7–12

MEN'S BASKETBALL

SUNDAY
Middlebury at Trinity, 2 p.m.
TUESDAY
Middlebury at Keene St., 7:30 p.m.

NESCAC

School	Record Conf.	Overall
MIDDLEBURY	4–1	14–3
HAMILTON	3–1	15–1
TUFTS	3–2	12–5
WESLEYAN	3–2	13–3
WILLIAMS	3–2	13–4
AMHERST	2–2	10–6
BOWDOIN	2–2	12–4
TRINITY	2–2	13–4
BATES	2–3	9–9
COLBY	1–3	10–6
CONN. COLLEGE	0–5	6–11

WOMEN'S SQUASH

FRIDAY
Middlebury vs. Wellesley (at MIT), 4:30 p.m.
SATURDAY
Middlebury vs. Virginia (at Harvard), 2 p.m.

MEN'S SQUASH

FRIDAY
Middlebury at MIT, 5 p.m.
SATURDAY
Middlebury vs. Virginia (at Harvard), 3 p.m.

SWIMMING & DIVING

SATURDAY
Middlebury at Williams, 1 p.m.

NORDIC SKIING

FRIDAY-SATURDAY, Feb. 2-3
Vermont Carnival at Trapp Family Lodge-Stowe, Vermont, 10 a.m.

ALPINE SKIING

FRIDAY-SATURDAY
St. Michael's Carnival at Smuggler's Notch - Jeffersonville, Vermont, 9 a.m.

TRACK & FIELD

FRIDAY-SATURDAY
Middlebury Invitational, Fri. 2 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m.

Women's Hockey Sweeps Bowdoin

Panthers Extend Shutout Streak

By SEBASTIAN SANCHEZ

The women's hockey team took two games from the Bowdoin Polar Bears on Friday, Jan. 19 and Saturday, Jan. 20. It was a crucial sweep for the No. 5 Panthers fighting to secure a top spot in the Nescac.

On Friday, Head Coach Bill Mandigo won his 550th career win in 30 seasons, another achievement for Mandigo who has won more women's hockey games than any other coach in NCAA history.

Middlebury jumped out to an early lead, scoring four minutes into the opening period. Bowdoin suffered an early penalty for hooking, which gave the Panthers the opportunity with the five-on-four advantage. Lin Han '20 stopped the puck behind the net for Jenna Marotta '19, who flicked the puck up to Madie Leidt '21 cutting up the ice. Leidt split to defenders and found the top-right corner of he goal for the only score of the game.

The hosts nearly doubled the lead when Janka Hlinka '18 took two bids from point-blank range, but was turned away by Bowdoin's goalie. Han also played spectacular defense, redirecting several shots on her way to a 27-save game.

In the middle stanza, Middlebury's best chance came when Maddie Winslow '18 centered a pass to Hlinka, who dangled the puck before missing wide on the shot. On a power-play, the Polar Bears tried to get the puck past Han, but she blocked both attempts in another impressive game for the second-year goalie.

It was more of the same in the final period, as both teams had equal chances to score. Middlebury's best chance for an insurance goal came from Rachel St. Clair '19 and Katherine Jackson '19 in the final minutes of the contest. On the defensive end, the Panthers only allowed one shot on goal in the final period, securing their fourth-straight win in a hard-fought affair.

"They came out very hard Friday and tested us physically," said Elizabeth Wulf '18 after the game. "They were tough to play against, and we had to work super hard to come out with the win."

Friday's contest revealed the team's chemistry and ability to grind out a win against a tough Nescac rival. But on Saturday, Jan. 20, the Panthers established their dominance, scoring a goal in every period and shut-out their opponents for the fourth time in a row.

The duo of Winslow and Jessica Young '18 teamed up for the first score of the game. After Bowdoin suffered a tripping penalty, Young won the faceoff, who tipped it to Hlinka. Hlinka's shot missed wide, but Young found the puck, centered a pass to Winslow, who finished in the back of the net to give the hosts an early lead.

The Polar Bears challenged senior goalie, Julia Neuburger '18, on a power play; however, the veteran stopped all five shots on the way to a 26-save game.

In the second period, the hosts scored early again thanks to efforts by Wulf for her fifth score of the season. Wulf's initial shot was denied by Bowdoin's goalie, but the rebound found her thanks to a pass by Jackson. Wulf would not be denied again, giving Middlebury a 2–0 cushion.

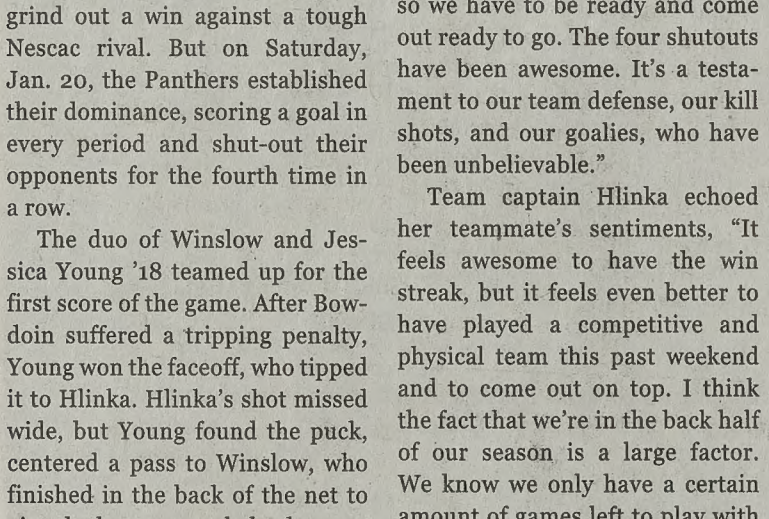
The Polar Bears had a few opportunities in the third stanza, but Neubeurger denied every shot that came her way. Middlebury completed the trifecta on a power-play opportunity. Marotta, who was named Nescac Player of the Week, assisted by Winslow found the back of the net to give Middlebury the 3-0 lead with two minutes left in the contest.

Bowdoin could not muster a single score all weekend, as Middlebury extended its streak to 240:04 straight minutes without allowing a goal. The Panthers have gotten on a roll, going 7–0–1 in their last eight games. They've outscored their opponents 29–4 over that span by playing some of their best hockey of the season.

"The Bowdoin sweep was big," Wulf said. "Any time you get 4 points against a NESCAC team at home is huge. We are focused on playing our best hockey and bringing it every game. One of our goals for the second half of the season was to be more consistent, and I think we are doing better with that. We know every team we play from here on out is good, so we have to be ready and come out ready to go. The four shutouts have been awesome. It's a testament to our team defense, our kill shots, and our goalies, who have been unbelievable."

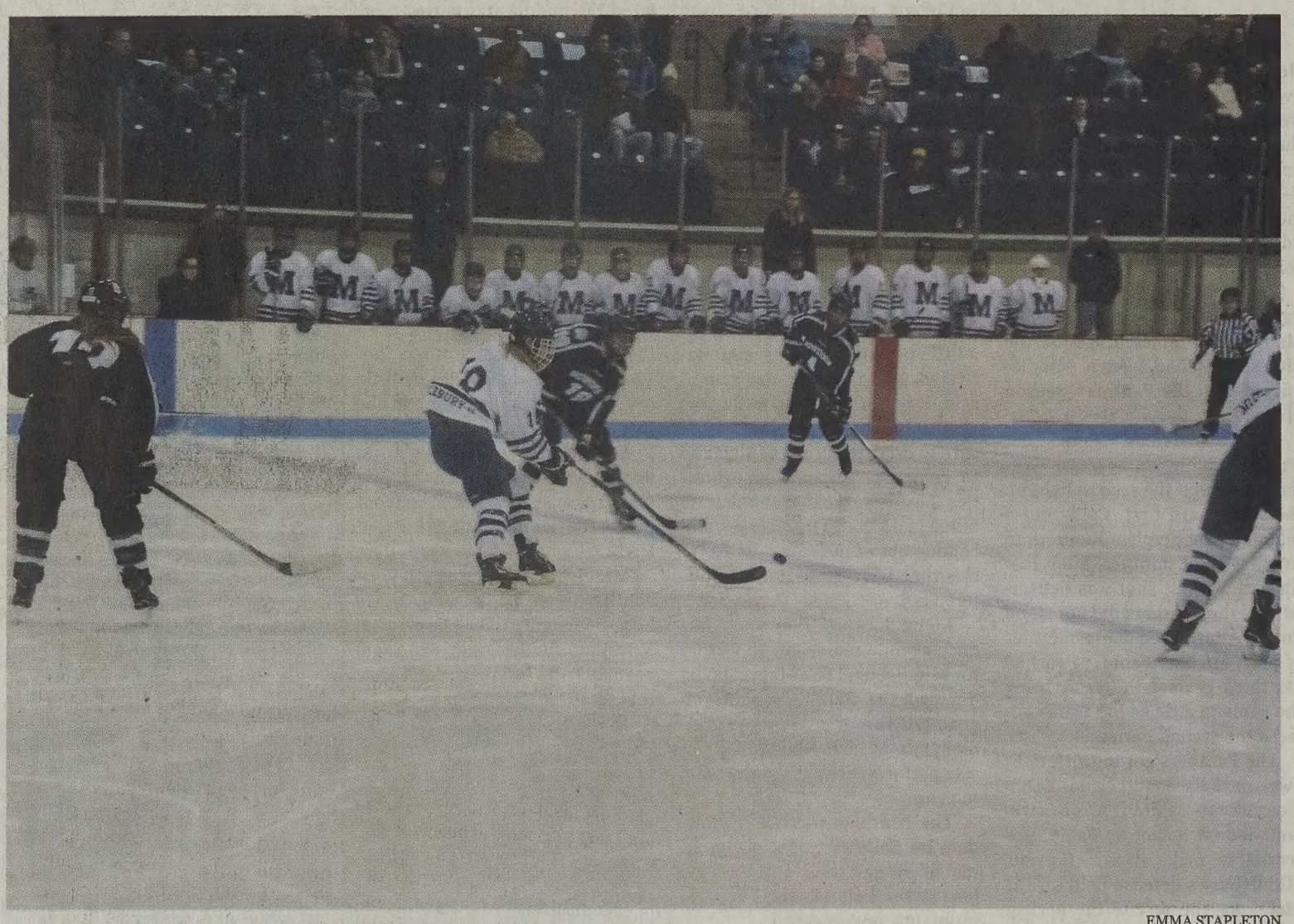
Team captain Hlinka echoed her teammate's sentiments, "It feels awesome to have the win streak, but it feels even better to have played a competitive and physical team this past weekend and to come out on top. I think the fact that we're in the back half of our season is a large factor. We know we only have a certain amount of games left to play with each other and we're trying to make the most of it."

The Panthers head to Hamilton next weekend Friday and Saturday, Jan. 26 and 27., in an opportunity to knock off the Continentals, who are atop the Nescac standings with a 7–1 record. Middlebury stands right behind Hamilton in second-place, with a 6–1–1 record in the conference, and a 10–3–1 record overall.



EMMA STAPLETON

Janka Hlinka '18 skates after the puck against Bowdoin this weekend. Hlinka had an assist in Saturday's 3 –0 win.



EMMA STAPLETON

Maddie Winslow '18 controls the puck in the middle of the ice against Bowdoin this weekend. Winslow had a goal and an assist in Middlebury's 3 –0 win on Saturday.

Men's Basketball Climbs Atop Nescac

By ANDREW RIGAS

At the end of December and beginning of January, the men's basketball team (14–3) seemed a little bit lost, losing three out of five games after starting the season 6–0. But two wins last weekend, a 70–66 defeat of Nescac rival No. 11 Williams on Friday, Jan. 19, in Pepin Gym and an 87–62 win at Pine Manor on Sunday, Jan. 21, extended the No. 10 Panthers' winning streak to six games and vaulted them to the top spot of the Nescac standings.

The Williams game set-up as monumental rematch of last season's Nescac championship, which Middlebury won 84–62, and the NCAA Sectional Finals, which Williams won 79–75 at Pepin Gym. The matchup also held important implications for this season's Nescac standings, since the teams entered the contest tied for second place along with Tufts at 3–1.

Williams built a 21–13 lead early on, but then went cold as Middlebury went on a run to go ahead 25–23 with a little under two minutes left in the half. Tied at 28 on the last possession of the first half, Jack Daly '18 hit Matt Folger '20, who sank a three to give the Panthers a lead they would never relinquish.

Ahead 43–38 just over four minutes into the second half, the Panthers started to run away from the Ephs. Their lead grew to as many as 17 points, 66–49, around the seven-minute mark. But then the Ephs fought back and got the deficit to 68–58 with 1:23 left in the second half. Off a missed free throw, Williams' Bobby Casey hit a three with 53 seconds left, and then Griffin Kornaker '21 committed an offensive foul to give the Ephs the ball back. Casey hit another three off the ensuing inbounds play, and Middlebury led by just four with 50 seconds remaining.

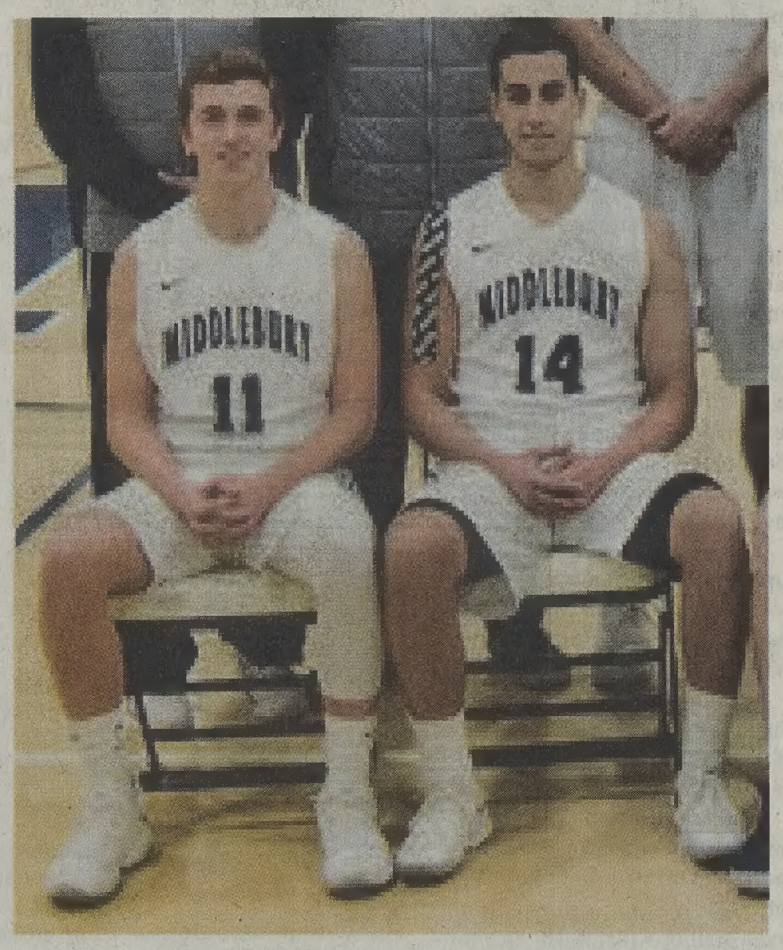
The Ephs fouled Daly, who missed the front end of a one-and-one. Casey knocked down a two-point jump shot inside the paint to make the score 68–66 with 24 seconds. Williams pressed on the inbounds, trying to deny Middlebury the basketball, but Eric McCord '19 slipped behind the press and Daly found him for a layup and a 70–66 Middlebury lead.

Williams had two more chances to cut into the lead but missed two threes, and Middlebury held onto a 70–66 victory for a crucial Nescac victory over its heated rival.

"Sometimes when you're down 10 at the end of a game you have more confidence shooting contested threes like they did," said team captain Nick Tarantino '18 after the game. "Coach Brown told us to value the basketball and close out hard on their threes. Williams could have given in but they're a proud and talented team."

Hilal Dahleh '19 and Joey Leighton '20 stepped up to lead the Panthers in scoring with 16 points apiece, for players who averaged just under nine and six points-per-game entering the contest. It was a career-high for Leighton, who came off the bench to hit seven of his 10 shots from the field in 22 minutes. The pair provided needed production from the wings, Middlebury's most unproven spot on the court.

"With Jack returning at point and the four bigs also coming back, the biggest question mark for us entering the season was who would fill the minutes on the wing," said Tarantino. "Hilal and Joey have really grown this year and were vital to beating Williams. We become a dangerous when they catch fire from deep and bring intensity on defense."



MIDDLEBURY ATHLETICS

Joey Leighton '20 (left) and Hilal Dahleh '19 (right).

Daly scored seven points and assisted on 11 buckets, while McCord added eight points and five rebounds. Folger scored seven points, grabbed eight rebounds, and blocked four shots.

Defensively, Middlebury held Williams under 36 percent from the field, and the Ephs shot below 40 percent in both halves. The Middlebury bench outscored Williams' 32–16, and the Panthers controlled the painted area, outscoring the Ephs 40–24 in there.

Tarantino believes the team's defensive effort against the Ephs was the best it has been all season.

"We communicated very well and really made them work hard to get off open looks," Tarantino said. "Coach Brown gave us a defensive game plan that we focused on the majority of last week's practice."

Brown's gameplan, coupled with the Panthers' effort on defense, forced Williams into its worst shooting game of the season.

With the win, along with Hamilton's 75–49 loss to Amherst and Tufts' 77–75 defeat at the hands of Bates, Middlebury moved into sole possession of first place in the Nescac at 4–1.

Middlebury was back in action the next day, Sunday, Jan. 21, when it travelled to Pine Manor in Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts. The Panthers did not waste any time getting ahead against the Gators, as they raced out to a 12–2 lead within the first five minutes. They continued to add to their advantage and led 44–31 at halftime.

The Panthers came out firing on all cylinders once more in the second half, and their lead ballooned to 27 points at the 15:12 mark in the second half. The Gators cut their deficit in half over the next five minutes, but Middlebury came right back to put them away. The Panthers led by as many as 29 points on the way to an 87–62 road victory.

Daly led scored 18 points, corralled 11 rebounds, and handed out seven assists, all game-highs. With 150 assists this season, Daly is well on his way to breaking his own program record for assists in a season, which he set last year when he handed out 183 helpers. He is currently third on Middlebury's career assist leaderboard, needing only 30 more to break Jake Wolfin '14's record of 553.

Folger added 12 points, five rebounds and four assists for the Panthers, while Jack Farrell '21 tallied 11 points on four of five shooting.

With the two weekend wins, the Panthers extended their winning to six games, tying their six-game streak to start the season. Tarantino thinks the team is putting the pieces together as it gets deeper into Nescac play.

"We're starting to see the team hit its stride as the younger guys are feeling more comfortable and older guys are filling their roles," said Tarantino. "We've played quality opponents all this month, and sometimes it takes some bumps in the road in order to learn what it takes to beat a very good team. We're feeling confident now and are looking forward to closing out our Nescac schedule."

Middlebury has two more away games in the next week, when it travels to Trinity this Sunday, Jan. 28 and Keene St. on Tuesday, Jan. 30. To stay atop the Nescac, the Panthers will have to beat the Bantams, who are in a three-way tie for sixth in the standings at 2–2. However, Trinity has had one of the stingiest defenses in the conference thus far, allowing the fewest points per game as a team overall and the third fewest in Nescac play.